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ANNUAL REPORT

~~878a~~ OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

EUSTACE HILL, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., B.Sc.,

INCLUDING A

Summary of the Annual Reports of the District
Medical Officers of Health,

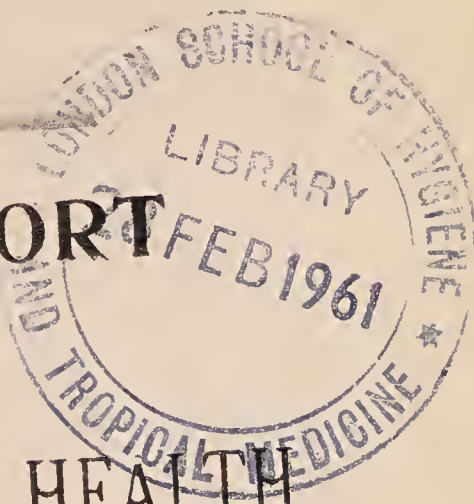
AND OTHER RECORDS,

FOR THE YEAR

1915.

PRINTED BY THE
SUNDERLAND POST CO., LTD., WEST WEAR STREET,
SUNDERLAND.

1920



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Council of the County Palatine of Durham.



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THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY PALATINE OF DURHAM.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Twenty-Fifth Annual Report and regret that it is issued so long after the period under review. This was, however, inevitable owing to the disorganisation of the County Health Department in consequence of the War, almost the whole of the Medical Staff and a large proportion of the clerical staff being away on military service from 1914 to the end of the War. It became necessary for the Deputy and Assistant County Medical Officer to take on the duties of Tuberculosis Medical Officer and in 1915 the Deputy and Chief Assistant School Medical Officer also went on Military service. Since the termination of the War great pressure of work has prevented the completion of this and subsequent annual reports, but I am hopeful that the subsequent reports up to date will be issued this year.

During 1915 very little work for the sanitary improvement of the County was possible. Practically no houses were built and no action could be taken to deal with properties unfit for habitation owing to the fact that there were no other houses available for the tenants. It will be noted from a perusal of this report (pages 27—37) how serious was the housing problem practically in every part of the County, and at the present time the conditions are undoubtedly worse. Some years must elapse before the shortage of houses is overtaken and further additional houses built to accommodate the large population at present living under admittedly unhealthy conditions, and every effort should be made to effect this desired end with the least possible delay. As has been so frequently pointed out, on the solution of the housing question depends the success of our schemes for dealing with Tuberculosis, Infant Mortality and Defective School Children, not to mention other matters materially affecting the public health.

So far as the County of Durham was concerned, the year 1915 was notable for one of the worst epidemics of Measles which the County has experienced, 976 deaths occurring during the first half of the year. This terrible death-rate among our young population resulted in two conferences between the County Council and the District Local Authorities being held at the Shire Hall, Durham, to consider the steps to be taken to prevent a repetition of such an epidemic. At the first Conference, a Committee of the Local Authorities concerned and Medical Officers of Health was appointed

and the following recommendations of that Committee were presented to the second Conference but this Conference did not approve the recommendation as to the notification of Measles, and decided to refer the whole matter to the District Local Authorities for consideration:—

- (a) Every Sanitary Authority should take steps to have the first case of Measles occurring in every house made notifiable.
- (b) The County Council should in co-operation with the District Sanitary Authorities arrange for the special supervision of cases of these diseases at their homes by specially appointed Health Visitors.
- (c) Education Authorities should arrange for instruction of the older girl scholars in the elementary schools and of all classes in the secondary and technical schools on the dangers of these diseases and the measures to be taken to prevent infection and fatal results.
- (d) The County Medical Officer should ask the co-operation of every medical practitioner in the County, including School Medical Staffs, with the Local Authorities in their efforts to reduce the mortality from these diseases.
- (e) A strong representation should be made to the Local Government Board and the Board of Education that in the opinion of this Conference Education Authorities should not be penalised by the exclusion from school on recognised medical authority of individual children on account of infection and that the epidemic grant should be restored.

However, a few days after the holding of the second Conference the Local Government Board issued an order requiring a modified notification of cases of Measles and German Measles, and at the end of the year action was being taken by the County Council, with the object of getting the best results from this compulsory notification.

During 1915 an Act was passed which made the notification of births compulsory throughout England and Wales, and this measure has proved of the greatest value in connection with the development of Maternity and Infant Welfare work, the results of which are each year becoming more evident.

Your obedient Servant,

T. EUSTACE HILL.

June, 1920.

AREA.

On 1st April, 1915, the Order constituting Darlington County Borough came into operation and involved a change in the County Area, as not only did the area of the Borough become detached from that of the Administrative County, but in addition 1,004 acres of land in the Darlington Rural District were at the same time transferred to the County Borough, while 346 acres in the County Borough were transferred to the Rural District and the Administrative County. As the result of the formation of the Darlington County Borough and the extension of its boundaries the area of the Administrative County is reduced from 637,672 to 637,014 acres.

POPULATION.

But for the constitution of the Darlington County Borough the population of the Administrative County at mid-year 1915 would have exceeded a million, the estimated figure being 1,002,923. Excluding the County Borough of Darlington and also a population of 1,697 formerly in the Darlington Rural District and now included in the Borough, the estimated population of the Administrative County in mid-year 1915 was 940,190.

During 1915 the Local Government Board confirmed an Order made by the Durham County Council transferring a portion of the Parish of Easington to the Parish of Shotton, both parishes being situated in the Easington Rural District.

VITAL STATISTICS.

In the following table the chief vital statistics of the Administrative County during 1915, and of its Urban and Rural Districts are compared with those of England and Wales:—

Rate per 1000 Population.	Total Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	Administrative County.	England and Wales.
Birth-rate	27·8	27·5	27·7	21·8
Death-rate ('Standardized')	17·1	14·9	16·1	14·8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 births.....	131	133	132	110
Zymotic Death-rate	2·38	2·38	2·38	1·29
Smallpox	nil.	nil.	nil.	0·00
Scarlet Fever	0·09	0·12	0·10	0·06
Diphtheria	0·26	0·31	0·28	0·15
"Fever" (Enteric & Continued)	0·04	0·06	0·05	0·03
Measles	1·08	1·06	1·08	0·43
Whooping Cough.....	0·22	0·22	0·23	0·21
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years) }	0·66	0·59	0·63	0·39
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1000 births }	23·8	21·6	22·8	18·1

Compared with 1914 there was a fall in the birth-rate of 3·3 per 1,000; an increase in the total death-rate of 0·5 per 1,000, an increase in the zymotic death-rate of 0·17, and a fall in the infant mortality rate of 3 per 1,000 births. But for an exceptionally high mortality from Measles the zymotic death-rate would have compared very favourably with that of previous years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The mortality from all the principal infective diseases showed a considerable decline except in the case of Measles and Diphtheria.

For the third year in succession not a single case of Smallpox was notified from the Administrative County.

The following tables give details of the prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases and the mortality from the principal infective diseases.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN
THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY, 1905-1914 and in 1915.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	Total of 10 years, 1905-14.	1915.
Small-pox	136	8	2	2	1	4	19	4	...	...	176	..
Scarlet Fever ...	3,448	2,621	2,234	2,567	3,737	3,419	3,253	5,658	5,447	7,797	40,181	4,291
Diphtheria	1,547	1,298	1,108	1,146	1,152	1,258	1,310	1,252	1,406	1,653	13,130	1,698
Enteric Fever ...	1,014	1,090	449	1,048	668	490	917	357	350	584	6,967	267
Continued Fever	93	70	19	38	24	19	33	8	6	9	319	6
Relapsing Fever	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever	64	36	30	29	32	38	21	28	24	49	351	36
Erysipelas	889	746	706	624	722	651	638	596	711	763	7,046	603
Total	7,194	5,869	4,548	5,456	6,336	5,879	6,191	7,903	7,944	10,855	68,175	6,902
Attack Rate per 1,000 Living...	8.5	6.9	5.4	6.4	7.5	6.9	6.6	8.3	8.2	11.0	7.5	7.4

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT

Weekly Statement of notifiable diseases reported during 1915.

Week ended		Small-Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Fever					Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis
					Enteric or Typhoid	Typhus	Relapsing	Continued	Phorperal				
January	2	...	115	39	8	...	...	...	...	2	18	24	13
"	9	...	116	31	9	...	...	...	...	1	12	34	13
"	16	...	94	43	9	...	...	...	...	3	14	25	22
"	23	...	92	56	10	...	...	...	1	1	10	20	16
"	30	...	131	41	7	...	...	...	3	...	14	38	15
February	6	...	101	44	8	...	...	...	...	1	21	35	24
"	13	...	86	66	7	...	...	...	2	5	11	28	26
"	20	...	94	55	6	...	...	...	...	4	13	40	30
"	27	...	99	47	6	...	...	1	1	2	15	52	22
March	6	...	93	35	5	...	...	...	...	...	8	44	38
"	13	...	99	29	5	...	...	...	1	3	17	45	39
"	20	...	76	34	3	...	...	...	...	3	9	36	29
"	27	...	82	30	2	...	...	...	2	4	9	40	37
April	3	...	77	26	3	...	...	...	...	2	11	30	34
"	10	...	91	17	3	...	...	...	2	1	11	41	29
"	17	...	80	21	2	...	...	...	2	3	17	42	22
"	24	...	72	31	3	...	...	...	1	2	15	36	18
May	1	...	71	23	2	...	...	...	1	2	14	47	21
"	8	...	84	39	7	...	...	...	1	4	17	46	29
"	15	...	59	30	3	...	...	...	...	1	9	38	32
"	22	...	50	26	2	...	...	...	2	4	9	33	31
"	29	...	51	17	2	...	...	...	...	1	13	26	24
June	5	...	68	25	6	...	...	...	...	1	12	36	33
"	12	...	65	20	3	...	...	...	1	3	15	44	24
"	19	...	59	24	5	...	...	...	2	1	7	40	22
"	26	...	60	20	2	...	...	...	1	5	9	36	21
July	3	...	61	24	5	...	...	...	2	1	7	50	22
"	10	...	67	30	6	...	...	...	...	...	6	28	18
"	17	...	57	30	4	...	...	...	...	...	8	32	21
"	24	...	74	25	7	...	...	...	...	3	9	32	30
"	31	...	64	13	5	...	...	1	...	3	6	32	20
August	7	...	53	19	8	...	...	...	1	1	6	33	12
"	14	...	69	27	5	...	...	1	1	...	10	36	15
"	21	...	44	31	4	...	...	...	...	1	12	36	21
"	28	...	69	38	4	...	...	...	1	2	8	34	18
September	4	...	55	30	7	...	...	...	1	...	11	26	17
"	11	...	76	32	5	...	...	...	...	2	9	28	25
"	18	...	102	52	11	...	...	...	3	1	11	30	23
"	25	...	103	36	4	...	...	1	...	...	8	41	21
October	2	...	78	27	6	...	...	...	...	2	4	19	15
"	9	...	82	33	7	...	...	...	...	3	15	21	21
"	16	...	79	39	6	...	...	...	...	1	14	36	20
"	23	...	102	26	8	...	...	...	1	1	10	20	35
"	30	...	89	24	7	...	...	2	...	...	8	31	19
November	6	...	101	26	5	...	...	...	...	1	11	26	10
"	13	...	101	35	3	...	...	...	...	3	17	24	15
"	20	...	104	38	2	...	...	...	...	1	11	36	18
"	27	...	92	31	6	...	...	...	2	...	12	35	30
December	4	...	83	26	5	...	...	...	...	4	14	21	18
"	11	...	92	30	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	20	13
"	18	...	96	38	2	1	...	...	...	3	15	17	15
"	25	...	69	29	3	...	...	...	...	4	8	24	16
January	1	...	64	40	4	...	...	...	...	1	12	41	12
Total for the year		...	4291	1698	267	1	...	6	36	98	603	1765	1184

TABLE GIVING FOR EACH YEAR THE NUMBER OF DEATHS AND THE DEATH-RATE
FROM THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES DURING THE TEN YEARS,

1905 TO 1914 AND IN 1915.

	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	Mean of 10 years.	1915
Estimated Population ...	832,840	848,870	865,210	881,870	898,840	916,150	933,780	951,750	970,070	985,292	908,467	940,190
Small-pox	2	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	77	68	55	62	80	70	74	99	148	214	94	102
Diphtheria	210	168	169	152	149	150	155	157	184	228	172	270
Enteric and Continued Fever	164	188	87	159	107	85	159	63	67	110	118	51
Measles.....	393	138	581	236	324	176	417	496	398	164	332	1009
Whooping Cough	345	248	268	452	217	224	365	259	177	359	291	216
Diarrhoea.....	734	1164	497	1217	506	702	1547	257	834	1110	856	596
TOTAL	1925	1974	1657	2278	1383	1407	2717	1332	1808	2185	1866	2244
Rate per 1,000 Living	2·31	2·32	1·91	2·58	1·53	1·53	2·90	1·39	1·86	2·21	2·06	2·38

TABLE SHEWING, FOR EACH MONTH, THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES,
AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM THE CHIEF ZYMOTIC DISEASES IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE

COUNTY OF DURHAM, DURING

1915.

	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under 1 year.	Total Zymotic Deaths.	Small- pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria and Group.	Fevers (Enteric and Con- tinued).	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Enter- itis (under 2 years.)
JANUARY ...	2487	1417	360	170	...	12	38	8	72	18	22
FEBRUARY ...	2292	1427	336	215	...	13	34	4	117	24	23
MARCH ...	2592	1660	404	298	...	9	28	1	219	23	18
APRIL ...	2292	1521	339	266	...	9	14	4	194	33	12
MAY ...	2337	1282	286	225	...	10	19	...	160	14	21
JUNE ...	2314	1198	232	213	...	7	18	5	149	17	17
JULY ...	2130	1006	224	129	...	9	19	6	56	11	28
AUGUST ...	2039	975	214	133	...	6	18	6	24	15	64
SEPTEMBER ...	1905	1017	303	219	...	3	21	5	7	12	171
OCTOBER ...	1881	1083	280	187	...	10	17	5	3	19	133
NOVEMBER ...	1957	1101	237	104	...	7	18	5	7	13	54
DECEMBER ...	1790	1186	238	86	...	7	26	2	1	17	33
TOTALS ...	26076	14873	3453	2244	...	102	270	51	1009	216	596

TABULATED STATEMENT OF THE CHIEF VITAL STATISTICS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM,
COMPILED FROM THE MONTHLY RETURNS SUPPLIED TO THE COUNTY MEDICAL

OFFICER BY THE REGISTRARS,

1915.

	Estimated Population.	Births Nett.	Deaths All Causes Nett.	Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	Rate per 1,000 of the Population.						Deaths under 1 year per 1000 Births.	Percentage of Un- certified Deaths to Total Deaths.
					Births nett rate.	Deaths all causes nett rate.	Deaths all causes standard- ized rate.	Zymotic Disease.	Pulmon- ary Tuber- culosis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.		
Boroughs 	130,866	3,623	2,559	342	27.68	19.55	} 17.11	2.61	1.45	4.07	133	3.5
Other Urban Districts	378,445	10,565	5,956	873	27.91	15.73		2.30	0.92	2.96	130	3.4
Rural Districts ...	430,877	11,888	6,358	1,029	27.59	14.75	14.99	2.38	0.81	2.70	133	2.4
Administrative County	940,190	26,076	14,873	2,244	27.73	15.81	16.14	2.38	0.94	2.99	132	3.0
England and Wales ...	37,302,983	814,527	562,326	48,406	21.8	15.1	14.8	1.29	...	...	110	1.4

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following table gives for each year the number of specimens examined from 1912 to 1915, and it will be noted that there was a considerable increase during the last-named year in respect of all the diseases dealt with:—

	Number of Specimens submitted.				Results in 1915.		
	1912	1913	1914	1915	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Incon- clusive.
Diphtheria	1046	876	*1089	802	327	435	31
Enteric Fever	222	236	369	209	82	127	...
Tuberculosis (Phthisis, etc.)	977	1062	1255	1163	310	853	...
Totals	2245	2174	2713	2174	719	1415	31
Positive Cases (proportion per cent.)	33·4	31·4	32·6	33·1	...	...	...

*7 Specimens were contaminated.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

The provision for institutional treatment of Smallpox and the ordinary infectious diseases is generally satisfactory throughout the Administrative County, except as regards Stanhope Urban and Weardale Rural Districts and the Seaham Harbour Urban District as regards Smallpox.

The new Isolation Hospital for the Easington Rural District at Thorpe was completed, as were also extensions to the hospitals of the Auckland, Shildon, and Willington Joint Hospital Board at Tindale Crescent and Helmington Row.

In July, 1915, an Agreement which had received the approval of the Local Government Board was completed, by which the Smallpox Hospital of the Durham and Brandon Joint Hospital Committee at Shincliffe became available for the treatment of smallpox patients from the districts of the Chester-le-Street Joint Hospital Board and the Blaydon, Ryton, and Whickham Joint Hospital Committee. By this arrangement the smallpox hospitals in the two last named areas are now available for the treatment of cases of tuberculosis.

The tabulated statement on page 36 of my Annual Report for 1913 otherwise accurately represents the isolation hospital accommodation at present provided in the Administrative County.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The notified cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered 1,765 and of other forms of Tuberculosis 1,184. The registered deaths numbered respectively 891 and 430.

It will be seen from the following table that there was again a slight increase in the death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the Administrative County, and that, as in previous years, the death-rate in the Boroughs very considerably exceeded that recorded in the other parts of the County.

The death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis was 0·45 per 1,000 population, as compared with 0·43 in 1914.

The following table gives the death-rate from phthisis in the Boroughs and in the Urban and Rural Districts in the County, and it will be noted that the rates in the Boroughs again considerably exceed those for the rest of the County:—

Rate per 1,000 Living.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Boroughs	1·22	1·28	1·36	1·45
Other Urban Districts...	0·95	0·89	0·98	0·92
Rural Districts.....	0·74	0·73	0·69	0·81
Administrative County...	0·91	0·89	0·93	0·94
England and Wales...	1·04	1·00	1·04	1·16

As regards the County Scheme for the Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis there was a considerable development during 1915, and there was a very large increase in the number of patients

treated both at the County Dispensaries and in residential institutions. Particulars as to the County Dispensaries and residential institutions available for the treatment of County patients, together with particulars as to the patients treated are given in the following brief report of Dr. A. G. R. Cameron, the County Tuberculosis Medical Officer.

COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

The number of patients admitted to Residential Institutions for the treatment of Tuberculosis was 987. Of these 929 were admitted to Sanatoria and 58 to General Hospitals for surgical treatment. The number of patients discharged was 934, and the number remaining under treatment at the end of 1915 was 243. The daily average number of patients under treatment in Institutions during the year was 233, and the average period of detention was 84·6 days.

The statement which follows gives separately, particulars relating to the treatment of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases. There it will be seen that 891 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were admitted to Institutions, as against 659 in 1914, and the number of Non-Pulmonary cases admitted was 96 as against 19 in 1914.

Particulars relating to the work of the Dispensaries are also shown. The number of patients examined for the first time was 2,886 as against 1,450 in 1914, the number treated at the Dispensaries was 3,321 as against 1,182 in 1914, and the number remaining under treatment on the 31st December, 1915, was 1,878, the corresponding figure for 1914 being 409.

SANATORIA AND HOSPITALS.

PULMONARY CASES.

	Insured.		Not Insured.		Total.
Admissions	447	...	444	...	891
Discharges	439	...	408	...	847
No. of days treatment	35,802	...	36,737	...	72,539
No. remaining under treatment					
at the end of the year	101	...	121	...	222

NON-PULMONARY CASES.

	Insured.	Not Insured.	Total.
Admissions	30 ...	66 ...	96
Discharges	27 ...	60 ...	87
No of days treatment	2,206 ...	4,308 ...	6,514
No. remaining under treatment at the end of the year	6 ...	15 ...	21

DISPENSARIES.

	Insured	Not Insured.	Total.
No. of patients examined	805 ...	2,081 ...	2 886
Result of examination:—Found to be Tuberculous, 2,216; Non-Tuberculous, 292; Under Observation, 378.			

	Insured.	Not Insured.	Total.
No. of patients treated at the Dispensaries	1,027 ...	2,294 ...	3,321
Remaining under treatment at the end of the year	438 ...	1,440 ...	1,878

RESULTS OF INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT. Of the 934 cases discharged from Sanatoria and Hospitals during the year, 370 were classified as "Fit for Work" or "Fit to attend School," 332 as "Improved," 119 as "Stationary," 46 as "Worse," and 39 left before their treatment was completed. In addition, the deaths of 29 patients in Sanatoria have to be recorded.

RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS. The accommodation for patients suffering from Tuberculosis is given hereunder:—

In June, 1915, an additional pavilion was erected at Hebburn Sanatorium, and the accommodation for Tuberculous patients increased from 16 to 24. Pavilions containing twelve beds each were also erected during the year and opened in May, 1915, at Helmington Row and Tindale Crescent Hospitals, which are two institutions belonging to the Auckland, etc., Joint Hospital Board. The contemplated extension at the Sunderland Rural District Hospital has not been carried through. The Pavilion to contain 40 beds at the County Sanatorium, Wolsingham, was not quite

completed at the end of the year, but is now occupied. In addition to the accommodation given below, 42 male patients were sent to Stanhope Sanatorium, 19 female patients to Leazes House, Wolsingham, and two to Blencathra Sanatorium, near Keswick.

Arrangements have also been made with the following General Hospitals for patients requiring surgical treatment, viz., Darlington Hospital, Durham County Hospital, Gateshead Hospital for Children, The Hartlepoons' Hospital, Ingham Infirmary, South Shields, Lady Eden Hospital, Bishop Auckland, Monkwearmouth and Southwick Hospital, The Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, and the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital. To these hospitals 58 cases were admitted during the year for surgical treatment, and the number has since considerably increased.

As regards residential accommodation for phthisical patients the following beds were available at the end of 1915:—

County Sanatorium, Wolsingham	28
Chester-le-Street (Blackfell Tuberculosis Hospital)	25
Sunderland (Tuberculosis Hospital)	12
Hebburn (Tuberculosis Hospital)	24
Ryton (Sealburn Tuberculosis Hospital)	16
Lanchester (Maiden Law Tuberculosis Hospital)	42
Felix House, Dinsdale (Daily Average Number)	25
Children's Sanatorium, Stannington do.	40
Tindale Crescent, Bishop Auckland	12
Helmington Row, Crook	12
<hr/>	
Total.....	236
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DISPENSARIES. The Tuberculosis Dispensaries at which patients are treated under the County Tuberculosis Scheme are situated at the following places in the County:—Bishop Auckland, Consett, Darlington, Durham (Sherburn House), Hartlepool, Horden, Jarrow, Sunderland, Stockton and Stanley. A new Dispensary has been erected at Chester-le-street, and arrangements have been made for opening it during the first week of January, 1916.

Owing to the difficulties of finding suitable premises it has not been possible to open Dispensaries at Blaydon and Felling. In both these places, but more particularly in the Blaydon area, Dispensaries are greatly needed.

SUPERVISION OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS. The number of visits paid by our Health Visitors to the homes of Tuberculosis patients was 20,354 as against 16,562 in 1914. Our Health Visitors also attended the Dispensaries whenever they were open and assisted with the clerical work, the weighing of the patients, and the dressing of the surgical cases etc. Their total number of attendances at the Dispensaries was 576.

OPEN AIR SHELTERS. These are provided for tuberculous patients and there are now over 40 in use. The majority of these are lent to patients to enable them to carry out the "Open-air Treatment" at their homes. More shelters are being ordered to meet the increased demand.

STAFF. The Chief Tuberculosis Officer and four Assistant Tuberculosis Medical Officers are on Military Service. The Deputy and Assistant County Medical Officer is carrying out the duties of Chief Tuberculosis Medical Officer with the Assistance of two whole time and two part time Tuberculosis Medical Officers. The acting Medical Superintendent at the County Sanatorium, also gives his services at one of the Dispensaries. By this means it has been possible to carry on the work of the County Tuberculosis Scheme, but the work of the Tuberculosis Department is steadily increasing and becoming more difficult to administer under the present arrangements.

The County Council continue to provide treatment for tuberculous patients resident in the County Borough of Darlington. Every additional year's experience emphasises the fact that the prevention of tuberculosis is impossible so long as the unsatisfactory housing conditions which prevail in so many parts of the County are allowed to continue. Moreover, except for a short prolongation of the life of the patient the institutional treatment provided is of little permanent value in many cases, as even where the disease has been arrested in consequence of the treatment of the patient in a sanatorium, a permanent improvement is not possible when the patient, as is

so frequently the case, has on leaving the sanatorium to return to an insanitary, illventilated, overcrowded dwelling. Under such circumstances the patient loses his resisting power, becomes re-infected and falls a victim to the disease at an early date, so that the large sums of money expended on him out of public funds are for the most part wasted. There is no doubt whatever that the key of the tuberculosis prevention problem is better housing. If a population is properly housed, then a well organised scheme for the prevention and treatment of the diseases will undoubtedly be effected.

Another circumstance militating against success in the treatment of Tuberculosis cases is that many medical practitioners do not notify cases until the disease has made such progress as to seriously jeopardize the chances of arresting the disease, whatever treatment is adopted. No doubt many patients do not consult a medical man until the progress of the disease has so undermined their constitution as to interfere with their working capacity, and to overcome this difficulty I can suggest nothing better than a systematic educational campaign throughout the County as soon as conditions are more normal. At the present time, with our limited staff, this is impossible. On the other hand I have no doubt that many medical practitioners unnecessarily postpone the notification of cases of Tuberculosis in their practice, and unfortunately some of them rely more on the result of a bacteriological examination of the sputum than on physical signs, apparently not realizing that the disease may be definitely established without any evidence of tubercle bacilli in the sputum. As a matter of fact the presence of such bacilli in the sputum indicates that there had already been some breaking down of lung tissue, and that the disease has already advanced beyond the stage when treatment in a Sanatorium is likely to be most effective. These facts have recently been brought to the notice of medical practitioners in the County, and they have been especially urged to promptly notify all cases of Tuberculosis at the earliest possible moment.

THE NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

The notifications received were equal to 89 % of the total number of births registered during the year, the percentage for the previous year having been 86.2. In my last report I dealt with

the reasons for non-notification, namely, neglect by certain medical practitioners, and the practice of midwifery by uncertified midwives. The number of whole-time Health Visitors on the County staff at the end of 1915 was 25. The following table gives particulars of the work accomplished by them during the year:—

COUNTY HEALTH VISITORS.

Statement of Work accomplished during the year ended
31st December, 1915.

BIRTHS :—

1st Visits	20,751	
Re-Visits	29,437	
		50,188

SCHOOL CHILDREN	13,083	
SCHOOLS	1,932	
		15,015

TUBERCULOSIS :—

1st Visits	2,728	
Re-Visits	17,626	
		20,354

ATTENDANCES AT DISPENSARIES	576
„ „ CHILD WELFARE CENTRES	150

Summary—

Total number of visits (not including attendance at Dispensary or Child Welfare Centre or Ineffective Visits)	86,804
Average daily number of visits per H.V.	18·4
Ineffective visits	5,875

REPORTS TO DISTRICT M.O.H. OR SANITARY INSPECTOR :—

Overcrowding	278	
Other Sanitary Defects	801	
		1,079

WHICKHAM DISTRICT NURSES :—

Total number of visits	991
Attendances at Dispensary	3

STOCKTON HEALTH VISITOR:—

Total number of visits	2,418
Attendances at Dispensary.....	46

HARTLEPOOL HEALTH VISITOR:—

Total number of visits	415
Attendances at Dispensary	44

Grand Total of all Visits (not including Ineffective Visits)	90,735
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Voluntary Maternity and Child Welfare Centres were established during the year at Haverton Hill, Durham, and Shotley Bridge, and received the assistance of our local Health Visitors, and literature was also provided from the County Health Department.

WATER SUPPLY.

The greater part of the County is supplied from public undertakings, and the principal of these are: The Weardale and Consett Water Coy., The Sunderland and South Shields Water Coy., and the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Coy.

The Urban Districts of the County are supplied as follows:—
By the Weardale and Consett Water Coy.:—

Durham, Annfield Plain, Benfieldside, Brandon and Byshottles, Chester-le-Street, Consett, Crook, Leadgate, Shildon, Spennymoor, Stanley, Tanfield, Tow Law, Willington, Part of the Blaydon U.D. and the Marley Hill district of Whickham.

By The Sunderland and South Shields Water Coy.:—

Jarrow, Hebburn, Southwick, Seaham Harbour, and part of Houghton-le-Spring U.D.

By the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Coy.:—

Ryton, Felling, and part of Blaydon.

The Tees Valley Water Board supply the Borough of Stockton; the Hartlepool Gas and Water Coy., the Borough of Hartlepool. The Lambton and Hetton Coal Coy. supply Hetton-le-Hole and part of the Hetton Urban District, and the following urban districts have their own supply:—Darlington, Bishop Auckland, Stanhope, and Barnard Castle.

Of the Rural Districts the Weardale and Consett Water Coy. supply about 50 % of the houses in Chester-le-Street, also the Auckland Rural District, the Durham Rural District, Lanchester Rural District, and part of the Sedgefield and Weardale Rural Districts.

The Sunderland and South Shields Water Coy. supply part of Chester-le-Street Rural District, Easington and Houghton-le-Spring, also South Shields and most of the Sunderland Rural District. About 29 % of the houses in Chester-le-Street are also supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Coy.

The Tees Valley Water Board supply a part of the Stockton Rural District, Barnard Castle and Darlington Rural Districts.

A part of the Chester-le-Street Rural District is supplied by the Lambton and Hetton Coal Coy., and part of the Hartlepool Rural District by the Hartlepool Gas and Water Coy.

In the more sparsely populated districts the domestic supply is chiefly from springs and shallow wells.

In the north-eastern area of the County the water is derived from deep wells and is very hard, but the other public supplies are mainly upland surface and river water. The upland surface water in some cases has a plumbo-solvent action but is excellent in quality. As stated in my previous reports, however, the river supplies are not satisfactory for, above the several intakes, the rivers are polluted by sewage, and although the water is filtered before distribution, it cannot be regarded as free from danger.

During the year the Weardale and Consett Water Coy. promoted a bill for providing increased water supply for their area by

the construction of a large impounding reservoir at Burnhope, near Wearhead, and the Bill, with certain amendments, has received the assent of Parliament.

At Newbiggin, in the Barnard Castle Rural District, the supply was inadequate during the summer, and at Stanhope, owing to the fact that the reservoir is only sufficient to store one day's supply, the water was cut off during the prolonged drought in the summer at morning and evening as a precautionary measure.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Many schemes of drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal were prepared during the year but, owing to the War conditions, could not be carried out, but it is the intention of the several local sanitary authorities to proceed with the work at the earliest possible moment when a favourable opportunity arises.

The Bishop Auckland Urban District Council were most anxious to proceed with their scheme for the drainage of the south end of the town, and applied to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £11,000, the balance of a loan already sanctioned for sewerage works, but were informed that the Board could not see their way to sanction the raising of the amount required at the present time.

A new circular filter has been provided at the Littleburn Sewage Works and is stated to be acting satisfactorily. The filter bed at the West Sleetburn Sewage Works (east side) was completed during the year and is also working satisfactorily. New sewers have been laid at Langley Moor and at Brandon Colliery (1,260 yards).

The Chester-le-Street Urban District Council made application to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £8,000 to provide a Sewage Purification Works for Pelton Fell, but owing to the present crisis the scheme is in abeyance.

In the Spennymoor Urban District the scheme for the provision of a new system of sewers and sewage disposal works was carried out during the year.

In the Auckland Rural District the new sewage purification works at Witton Park were completed and plans for the construction of similar works at Toronto and at Sunnybrow were prepared, but the carrying out of the scheme has been left over until the end of the war.

In the Easington Rural District the scheme for carrying a sewer from Haswell to the sea, in connection with the South Hetton, Murton Colliery, etc., sewage scheme, has also been postponed until the end of the War, but during the year new sludge beds were completed at Murton.

At Ludworth, in the Durham Rural District, new sewage purification works consisting of settling tanks, and percolating filters have been provided.

The Stanley Urban District Council have had under consideration the question of the sewage disposal of their district, and have instructed a firm of engineers to report on their present works at Hustle Down, and to advise them as to the best means of dealing with the matter, and the Council are awaiting this report.

Sewage disposal works at Witton Gilbert, in the Chester-le-Street Rural District, were completed during the year, but the treatment of the sewage could not be commenced owing to the subsidences from the colliery workings.

At Urpeth Colliery, in the same district, it is proposed to provide new sewage disposal works, and during the year new sewers for this area have been laid.

The attention of the Darlington Town Council has been drawn to the insanitary condition of their sewage disposal works at Stressholmes, which discharges its unpurified effluent into the river Skerne.

The Shildon Sewage Farm has given much trouble during the year, and the County Health Inspector has on several occasions reported on the unsatisfactory way the farm is looked after.

A statutory notice was served on the Chester-le-Street District Council with respect to the Pelton Fell Colliery and Pelton Village Sewage Disposal Works. These works are seriously affected by colliery subsidences.

A statutory notice was also served on the District Council with respect to the pollution of the River Team in connection with the Birtley Sewage Farm. It is the intention of the Council to drain the Birtley sewage into the Gateshead sewers, and they have been negotiating with the Gateshead Corporation, but owing to the request of the Local Government Board to curtail all expenditure except what was absolutely necessary, the Council decided to take no further steps.

The sewage disposal works at Page Bank and at Willington have also been most unsatisfactory, and the attention of the District Council has been drawn to the gross pollution of the river by these works.

RIVERS POLLUTION.

The County Health Committee having from time to time made representations to the Local Government Board relative to the amendment of the law with respect to the pollution of streams, the Board have replied that they have caused such representations to be noted for consideration in the event of further legislation on the subject being proposed.

It is extremely probable that in the near future, after the passing of the present crisis, there will be further legislation in this direction in view of the ninth and final report of the Commission on the purification of sewage and trade wastes which have been issued. Seeing that we have now in operation in this County a large number of bye-product works dealing with the distillation of coal, tar, etc., from which pollutions are frequently taking place with much damage to the streams, it is to be regretted that the Commission's labours have been brought to a close before they had supplied us with information as to how best to treat these and other wastes of an industrial character. We can only hope that at an early date

the simplification of the law dealing with pollutions will be brought about, and that the findings and recommendations of the Commission will also be given effect to in order that where necessary such polluting wastes may be treated on a thoroughly scientific basis with the greatest benefit to all concerned.

Owing to the present crisis and to the Board having refused to sanction the necessary loans, even in cases where loans had already been sanctioned but not taken up, the construction of several works has been postponed. However, at Ludworth Colliery an installation of settling tanks and percolating filters has been provided, whilst at Witton Gilbert there has also been provided an installation of settling tanks and double contact beds. Six statutory notices have been served during the year. One notice was complied with by the construction of settling tanks, etc., and five were not proceeded with owing to the war.

It is to be hoped that the District Councils will, as far as possible, by the preparation of plans, etc., and provisionally securing sites, forward their schemes in readiness for the cessation of hostilities, and thus assist the speedy return home of large numbers of men to civil employment.

It seems to me that it would be in the interest of the community were the Board to invite the early deposition of plans, etc., for their consideration with this end in view.

In the meantime, every effort should be made to keep existing works as efficient as possible.

EXCREMENT REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Repeated reference has been made in these reports to the conservancy system of excrement removal and disposal, and the great danger to health which this system entails. It is therefore encouraging to find that the Medical Officers of Health in this County are unanimous in recommending their respective sanitary authorities to do away with the insanitary ash-closets and ashpit-prives and to provide water-closets in their place.

This work of conversion like other sanitary measures has been difficult to carry out under the present conditions, but in spite of the difficulties a considerable number of conversions have been effected though in some districts the rate of progress has been very slow, and unless the work is undertaken more energetically it will be many years before they are entirely abolished.

No district in which these insanitary closets are in general use can be regarded as satisfactory from a health standpoint, and in this connection I desire to again draw attention to the provisions of Section 39 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, which gives authorities power to carry out the work expeditiously. The additional cost may be considerable but I feel sure that the advantages would be so great that it would be money well spent.

In the Stockton Urban District where the Act referred to is in operation, during the first eight months of the year 862 conversions of ash-closets to water-closets were effected, and many more would have been altered but for War conditions.

In Consett I am pleased to record that 104 covered ashpit-privies were converted into water-closets. In a number of cases the District Council laid the necessary drains free of charge and contributed £1 towards the cost of each conversion. There are now no open ashpit-privies in this district. The Council are also recommending the provision of dustbins in place of ashpits, and in 156 cases ashpits were abolished by the Council and in a number of other cases the owners have, on the recommendation of the Sanitary Inspector, consented to provide these sanitary ashbins, and to discontinue the use of the ashpits.

Referring to the conditions which favour excessive infant mortality, the Local Government Board in a Circular letter to sanitary authorities, dated 25th July, 1913, writes as follows:—"In particular I am to remind the Council of the danger to health caused by accumulations of refuse in the neighbourhood of dwellings. Such accumulations provide breeding grounds for flies, and are otherwise open to serious objections."

Referring to the methods of disposal of refuse and excrement the Board point out that however carefully closets under the conservancy system are emptied and cleansed, the conditions associated with them in urban districts are generally a menace to public health and especially the health of the children.

In the Consett Urban District the infant mortality during the year was only 118 as against an average of 132 for the whole Administrative County, and I cannot help feeling that the abolition of these insanitary closets and the provision of ashbins have contributed to this satisfactory result, and I hope that other sanitary authorities will follow the example of Stockton and Consett, for there is very much room for improvement.

The following table gives approximately the number of various types of closets in the Administrative County, and the number of conversions effected during 1915:—

District.	Total number in District.			Ashpit-Privies converted into		Ash-Closets converted into Water-Closets.
	Water-Closets.	Ash-Closets.	Ashpit-Privies.	Ash-Closets.	Water-Closets.	
URBAN.						
* Darlington Borough...	8596	6739	689	...	203	5
Durham ,, ...	2683	93	507	...	16	...
+ Hartlepool ,, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jarrow ,, ...	791	4945	...	...	...	...
Stockton ,, ...	6540	678	5543	...	862	...
Annfield Plain 	633	1034	1266	...	1	...
Barnard Castle 	833	67	66	...	8	6
Benfieldside 	506	493	657	...	46	...
Bishop Auckland 	2031	753	530	11	26	6
Blaydon 	1625	3188	1025	...	16	13
Brandon & Byshottles.	216	3345	236	2	..	...
Chester-le-Street 	1400	1660	21	...	25	5
Consett 	1144	641	348	...	129	21
Crook 	290	1902	75	9	7	6
Felling 	517	4161	27	...	15	30
Hebburn 	283	4073	45	...	...	2
Hetton-le-Hole 	436	2618	75	45	3	...
Houghton-le-Spring ..	513	1020	436	...	10	...
Leadgate 	195	103	390	2	8	...
Ryton 	724	1378	577	3	17	9
Seaham Harbour 	1596	94	767	...	...	5
Shildon 	620	2368		...	14	5
Southwick-on-Wear ...	1248	773	465	...	47	...
Spennymoor 	299	2971	477	10	3	...
Stanhope 	150	186	11	...	..	2
Stanley 	1005	2828	905	...	24	57
Tanfield 	187	1525	508	52	4	...
Tow Law 	39	433	236	17	1	...
Whickham 	279	2078	...	2	1	13
Willington 	330	1550	162	54	14	14
RURAL						
Auckland 	676	9086	1397	41	31	46
Barnard Castle 	443	1066	1169	24	8	..
Chester-le-Street 	2449	9467	2633	22	26	9
Darlington 	265	363	1430	2	3	...
Durham .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Easington 	940	9421	2798	142	11	...
Hartlepool 	53	357	148	2	...	...
Houghton 	160	4286	650	56	10	...
Lanchester 	468	3556	2279	41	4	6
Sedgefield 	392	4945	1371	30	16	...
South Shields 	4059	2764	141	45	12	17
Stockton 	367	1929	104	...	...	17
Sunderland 	965	4125	324	2	27	2
Weardale 	113	106	936	10	2	1

* On the 1st April, 1915, Darlington became a County Borough, but the above figures are for the whole of the year.

† Water-closet town.

HOUSING.

The provision of houses for the Working Classes, the remedying of sanitary defects, and the abatement of overcrowding, which, in the past have formed such a prominent part of the work of the sanitary authorities in this County have to a large extent been in abeyance during the War owing to the shortage of labour, the depletion of the sanitary staff, and the fact that only in very urgent and exceptional cases were the local authorities able to obtain the sanction of the Local Government Board to raise a loan for the carrying out of Housing Schemes. In one or two instances, however, where the work had already been commenced and contracts entered into, sanction was given and building proceeded. The statement which follows, and the table given on page 38 and appendix C. & C1. summarize some of the chief activities in the various districts during the year. In many of the other districts only minor defects and those which were urgently needed were attended to:—

HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH. An Enquiry was held by the Local Government Board on the 3rd March, with reference to the application of the Town Council for a loan, estimated at £15,000, for carrying out an improvement scheme under Part I. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, in the Cleveland Street area, and towards the end of the year a formal order was made confirming the improvement scheme. In this area 17 houses were closed after purchase by the Town Council, 10 were closed by the owners and 9 were subsequently demolished.

STOCKTON BOROUGH. In the Borough of Stockton 65 new houses were built by private enterprise. The corresponding figure for 1914 and the three preceding years was 103, 108, 97 and 42.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT. At Annfield Plain the scheme of the District Council to provide 68 houses under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, was proceeded with, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining labour it progressed slowly, but 30 new houses were added to the district during the year. In this district the Council decided that during the con-

tinuance of the War no work necessitating structural alterations and costly expense that could be avoided was to be recommended by the Health Department.

BENFIELDSIDE URBAN DISTRICT. Towards the end of 1914 an inspection of the Bottle Bank area in the Benfieldside Urban District was made, and as the alterations and repairs to the houses which were being carried out appeared to the County Council to be most unsatisfactory, the Local Government Board were asked to arrange for one of their Inspectors to visit Benfieldside. The Board, however, were unable to comply with the County Council's request, as they could not spare one of their Inspectors owing to the shortage of staff.

BISHOP AUCKLAND URBAN DISTRICT. The proposal to sewer the south end of the town at Bishop Auckland is in abeyance, as the Local Government Board could not see their way to sanction a loan for carrying out the work.

BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT. At Victoria Garesfield, in the Blaydon U.D., owing to the extreme shortage of water, there was great delay in carrying out the conversion of a number of insanitary conveniences in that area.

BRANDON URBAN DISTRICT. During the year Esh Winning and Hedley Hill Terrace were inspected and were the subject of a special report by the District Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector. The report showed that in this area there was much insanitary property urgently in need of attention, including, in addition to extensive repairs to property, the provision of water-closets in place of insanitary midden-privies, while at Hedley Hill Terrace, which comprises about 70 houses, the sewerage and drainage throughout of this terrace is recommended.

As regards the back-to-back houses at Browney Colliery, the District Council have postponed the question of converting them into through houses until a more favourable time.

CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT. In the Chester-le-Street Urban District the Council's scheme for the erection of 198 houses has been much delayed. At first on account of difficulty of obtain-

ing a loan and later on account of the shortage of labour. Representations were made to the Local Government Board and in this case sanction was given to the District Council to a loan which would enable them to proceed with the erection of 50 houses. The houses were not completed by the end of the year but progress has been made and it is expected that the houses will be ready for occupation by April, 1916. The contract price for these houses is £10,360 plus another £2,200 for sewers and street works.

HEBBURN URBAN DISTRICT. In February an Inspector of the Local Government Board visited the Urban District of Hebburn, and subsequently the Board addressed a letter to the District Council in which they stated that they gathered from their Inspector's Report that there is need for the provision of working class dwellings in the district, that there is a considerable number of houses regarded as unfit for human habitation, and that the Council are seriously hampered in dealing with insanitary property and with cases of overcrowding, by reason of shortage of satisfactory housing accommodation. The Board requested the Council to consider the advisability of preparing a scheme for the erection of houses under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. Here I may remark that this difficulty of dealing with cases of overcrowding owing to the shortage of housing accommodation is referred to in many of the reports of the District Medical Officers of Health.

HETTON-LE-HOLE URBAN DISTRICT. On the 14th of January the Local Government Board addressed a letter to the Hetton-le-Hole District Council, in which they stated that the Board gathered that the provision of houses was urgently needed to enable the Council to deal with the very unsatisfactory housing conditions in the district, and urged them to prepare a scheme. Draft plans of different types of houses have, I understand, been prepared, and a site chosen, but owing to the impossibility of obtaining sanction to a loan the scheme has not been proceeded with. The Council, in the meantime, would be well advised to work out the preliminaries of a scheme for the re-construction of the John Street area.

RYTON URBAN DISTRICT. In the Ryton Urban District, owing to the absence of the Surveyor, who is also Clerk to the District Council, and the fact that the Sanitary Inspector had to undertake

his duties, it was not found possible to carry out the usual systematic inspection of the district, but a number of structural and other defects were attended to. The District Medical Officer of Health draws attention to the gratifying fact that of the 57 new houses built and occupied during the year 50 have been provided with water-closets, and further states that unless otherwise impracticable, no plan for the erection of new houses should be passed which does not provide for water-closets. With this I entirely concur, for there is not the least doubt that much of the sickness, chronic ill-health and loss of life are due to insanitary midden-privies and ash-closets which obtain in this County.

SHILDON URBAN DISTRICT. In June, 1914, the Deputy and Assistant County Medical Officer made a report on the sanitary circumstances of the Shildon Urban District, a copy of which was forwarded to the District Council for their consideration and observations. In Dean Street the owner has promised to make improvements; at Pit Row the owner has submitted a scheme for the remodelling of the houses, and in the case of 8 houses in Hardy Row and one in Back Queen Street closing orders were made. In the case of the houses in Hardy Street the owner appealed against the order, but after an Enquiry which was held by the Local Government Board the closing order was confirmed. I regret, however, to state that with respect to these 9 houses the orders have not yet been carried out. There is much old and insanitary property in this district, much of which has been allowed to get into a very bad state of repair so that much will be required to be done to make them reasonably habitable. There is also much overcrowding, and many of the back streets are unmade. It is to be hoped that when the present conditions become more settled the Council will deal seriously with the various improvements recommended in the report.

SPENNYMOOR URBAN DISTRICT. A communication from the Local Government Board was addressed to the Spennymoor Urban District Council concerning the overcrowding in the district. The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, acting on the instructions of the Council, made a special enquiry in the matter and in his report states that only a few cases of overcrowding were found.

and all of these have been dealt with. It is difficult to understand how the Medical Officer of Health arrives at this conclusion for at the Census of 1911 the number of overcrowded tenements or separate occupations was 482 and no less than 22·1 % of the population were living under overcrowded conditions, viz., more than two persons per room. A number of men have since joined the Colours, but any scheme for the provision of houses would naturally provide for their return. Moreover, since 1911, the excess of births over deaths amounts to 1,582, and this "natural increase" in the population will continue.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT. In the Stanley Urban District 104 houses were built during the year as against 61 in the previous year, and all were erected by private enterprise. It is interesting to record that of these 33 were 3-roomed houses, 60 4-roomed houses, 5 5-roomed houses, 6 6-roomed houses and that 52 were fitted with baths in the scullery, and 8 with bathrooms; 13 houses were built without a scullery.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT. In the Tanfield Urban District 27 houses were erected and of these 24 were provided with ash-closets owing, it is stated, to the levels and gradients not being suitable for water-closets. This is much to be regretted, and it is to be hoped that in the future in every Housing and Town Planning scheme the sites will be so chosen that it will be possible to provide every house with a water-carriage system.

TOW LAW URBAN DISTRICT. In the Tow Law Urban District the Medical Officer of Health again draws attention to the unmade back streets in his district, which in wet weather are in a deplorable condition, and I might add that in dry weather the dust from such roads and the distribution of the dust associated with the emptying of the insanitary ash-closets are responsible for much illness and more particularly in the case of young children who use the roads as their playground.

WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT. The Medical Officer of Health of the Whickham Urban District expresses regret that chiefly owing to the shortage of labour many reforms that were under way have

been held in abeyance, and more especially with respect to the small number of conversions from earth and ash-closets to water-closets. At Swalwell little has been effected, and at Marley Hill, owing to the shortage of labour but little progress has been made with the great improvements arranged for. The Whickham Urban District is the centre of one of the largest munition areas in the country, and into this district have flocked a great number of munition workers, with the result that in some parts and more especially at Dunston-on-Tyne there is great overcrowding. This large ward, writes the Medical Officer of Health, has again absorbed most attention.

WILLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT. The sanitary circumstances of this district have been the subject of reports from time to time and, at the request of the District Council, the County Medical Officer attended a joint meeting of the District Council and the owners of the back-to-back houses at Willington. The District Council has since passed a resolution in which they give the County Council an assurance that the whole of the back-to-back houses within their district would be converted into through houses or otherwise so altered and improved that through ventilation is provided and that this work would be carried out within 5 years of the termination of the War. The question of providing houses under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, will also be considered at the same time.

AUCKLAND RURAL DISTRICT. The Inspector of the Local Government Board visited this district and enquired into the housing conditions and, in a letter to the District Council, the Board pointed out that in some parts of the district the housing conditions were very unsatisfactory, and that there were a large number that could not be regarded as reasonably fit for human habitation and, further, that there was a deplorable amount of overcrowding. As a result of this report a Committee of the Rural District Council was appointed to consider the matter and to formulate a scheme in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Health Officers of the District Council also reported on the sanitary condition of Helmington Row and portions of the township of Evenwood, Coundon and Byers Green. The report supports the opinion expressed by the Inspector of the Board that many of the houses

are in an insanitary condition, but it was not found practicable to proceed with a housing scheme, and under the existing conditions it was not possible to make any rapid progress in remedying the sanitary defects.

I have also to record that at High Row a serious outbreak of enteric fever occurred during the summer of 1914 and that in previous years this disease has been prevalent in the same row.

The County Medical Officer investigated the outbreak and recommended the abolition of the foul midden-privies which apparently have become impregnated with the germs of the disease, and also recommended the provision of water-closets. A conference with the representatives of the owners of that property was subsequently held and as a result they agreed to provide water-closets to the houses and to carry out other improvements as soon as circumstances permitted.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT. The Housing Scheme under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1907, at Pelton is progressing and up to the end of the year 92 out of the 113 houses which are to be provided were occupied. Other houses built and occupied during the year are as follows:—Urpeth 37, Harraton 28, Lamesley 16, Birtley 15, Burnmoor 10, Washington 10, Witton Gilbert 9, and in other parts of the district 9.

At the latter end of last year attention was drawn to the insanitary condition of Perkinsville, in the Pelton District, where there are 136 two-roomed back-to-back houses. Representations were made to the owners, who were requested to convert these houses into through houses, and as a result the work was in hand at the end of the year. In connection with this property enquiries were made into the infant mortality, and it was found that 52 % of the total deaths from all causes were under one year of age, and no less than 65 % under two years of age, while the corresponding figure for the rest of the County, which has a notoriously high infant mortality, was 28 and 36 % respectively. The number of persons living in these back-to-back houses at the time of the enquiry was 639.

The scheme for the erection of 100 houses at Harraton and 47 at Washington has been held up owing to the loan conditions and the high building prices which obtained at the time, but it is the intention of the Council to proceed with the scheme as soon as conditions are more normal.

During the year steps were taken to close certain insanitary property in the Square, Usworth, and at Middle Row, in the same township. Attention was also drawn to a large number of insanitary property at the Clink, Witton Gilbert, and as a result the owners have given an undertaking to reconstruct and improve these houses after the war, and in the meantime to remedy the defects which are in most need of attention.

DURHAM RURAL DISTRICT. The sanitary condition of Ludworth has been a matter of much concern to both the District and the County Council. In March of this year the County Medical Officer inspected the village with the District Sanitary Inspector, and reported that he found it in a disgracefully insanitary condition, and that practically nothing had been done to improve it during the last six months. The owners, the Weardale Steel, Coal and Coke Coy., Ltd., had given an undertaking to complete the reconstruction of the houses of the village, and to do 20 houses each year, but up to the time of his visit nothing had been done. He also pointed out one row in Edward Street where some improvements had been carried out; these had only been partly completed, though an undertaking was given that the work should be done by the end of 1913. With the exception of these houses there is hardly a house belonging to the Coal Company in this area which is reasonably fit for habitation, while most of them are absolutely unfit, and many of them are also seriously overcrowded. Owing to the dearth of dwellings in the district and the fact that many of the male members are on military service the houses would have been promptly closed. It is to be hoped that, as soon as the present conditions become more normal, immediate steps will be taken to remedy the gross sanitary defects which ought never to have been allowed to develop.

During the year the village of East Hetton was the subject of a special report by the District Medical Officer of Health. The report confirms the view which has frequently been expressed by the

County Medical Officer as to the necessity for the provision of water-closets in many of the houses. The Local Government Board have requested the District Council to inform them as to what action they propose to take to secure the provision of satisfactory closet accommodation where necessary in the village.

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT. The Council's scheme for the erection of 100 houses at Shotton was not proceeded with on the instructions received from the Local Government Board. The plans, however, were passed for the erection of 355 houses by private enterprise, and during the year 234 were completed and certified for habitation. Of these 128 were colliery houses, 88 private houses, 12 aged miners' homes, and 3 were combined houses and shops.

An important Local Government Board Enquiry was held this year with respect to certain houses in Forster Street, South Hetton. The houses have attic bedrooms—a type of room which is so well known in this County. Amongst other improvements the Council requested the owners to raise the roofs and thus provide better means of lighting and ventilation. In default closing orders were issued and the owners appealed to the Local Government Board against the decision of the District Council. The result of this Enquiry was that the Board upheld the decision of the District Council and requested the appellants to pay the cost of the Enquiry. As there are many such houses in the County the decision is regarded as of the utmost importance for it will no doubt materially assist the local authorities and the County Council in dealing with other houses of a similar type, and thus securing what has long been considered necessary to make these miserable attic rooms reasonably habitable.

In spite of the conditions of the times the report of the Medical Officer of Health of the district shows that many valuable sanitary improvements have been carried out during the year.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING RURAL DISTRICT. The sanitary condition of The Raintons, which has been the subject of reports from time to time by the County Health Department, was further enquired

into during the year, but very little appears to have been done to remedy the serious sanitary defects in this area. There have, no doubt, been great difficulties in the way at the present time of getting work carried out, but the defects in most cases are of long standing.

SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT. Amongst other areas in this County in need of urgent attention must be included Trimdon Grange and Trimdon Colliery. These places have been reported on from time to time, and the District Council's attention has been drawn to the insanitary condition of the property and the streets in this area, but for various reasons very little progress has been made. Here, again, the defects are by no means of recent date.

SOUTH SHIELDS RURAL DISTRICT. Application was made during the year to the Local Government Board for authority to prepare a Town Planning Scheme for the whole of the Rural District. Similar application was also made to the Board by the adjoining South Shields County Borough. In the latter case the scheme included a part of the County Borough and certain parishes adjoining it, viz., Harton, and parts of the parishes of Whitburn, Boldon, and Boldon Colliery. An Enquiry was subsequently held and it is understood that an agreement has been come to by the respective authorities, but the decision of the Local Government Board is not yet known.

SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT. An Enquiry was held on the 8th of June by one of the Inspectors of the Local Government Board into an application by the Rural District Council for sanction to borrow £22,710 for the erection of houses under Part III of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. Relating to this scheme it is proposed to obtain authority from the Board to relax the District Council's Byelaws relating to New Streets so as to permit the substitution of garden suburb roads for 36 feet front and 18 feet back streets, as is required under the existing bye-laws. The Housing Scheme, we have every reason to believe will meet the approval of the Local Government Board but no capital expenditure is likely to be permitted until after the War.

STOCKTON RURAL DISTRICT. The Medical Officer of Health reports that building in this district has been practically at a standstill. A few houses have been erected at Haverton Hill to replace those

that are to be condemned at Port Clarence. The Medical Officer of Health also states that the Council have not taken any steps to build houses. This District is one of the least overcrowded districts in the County but the number of overcrowded tenements is above the average for the country as a whole for at the Census of 1911 there were 259 overcrowded tenements containing a population of 2081, which is equivalent to 11.9% of the population for the whole of the Rural District.

WEARDALE RURAL DISTRICT. Only 4 new houses were built in this District as against 8 in 1913 and 6 in 1914. At the Census of 1911 there were 271 overcrowded tenements containing more than two persons per room, and the proportion per cent of the population living under overcrowded conditions was 19.4.

The following table gives the number and distribution of houses erected and occupied in the Administrative County during 1915, together with a statement of work done under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910:—

District.	Number of New Houses Erected.	Number of New Houses Occupied.	Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.					
			Number of Dwellings Inspected.	Number of Dwellings unfit for habitation	Number of Repre- sentations made.	Number of Closing Orders made.	Number of Dwellings in which the defects were remedied with- out the making of Closing Orders.	Number of Dwellings made habitable after Closing Orders.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
URBAN.								
Darlington Borough	126	126	...	4	...	...	...	...
Durham	8	8	292	4	4	4	...	6
Hartlepool	2	2	60	...	...	...	...	...
Jarrow	19	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stockton	65	...	79	2	2	2	45	...
Annfield Plain	30	30	106	...	...	...	...	4
Barnard Castle	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Benfieldside	3	3	26	2	2	2	24	2
Bishop Auckland	6	5	162	...	...	...	7	...
Blaydon	31	31	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brandon and Byshottles	18	17	284	...	...	...	26	...
Chester-le-Street	53	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Consett	16	16	23	...	...	6	...	16
Crook	25	25	108	...	...	...	...	...
Felling	3	3	60	36	36	36	10	22
Hebburn	27	27	3	3	3	3	...	...
Hetton-le-Hole	22	22	66	12	12	12	49	5
Houghton-le-Spring	53	39	115	3	3	3	10	...
Leadgate	4	4	187	...	...	...	23	...
Ryton	57	34	...	...	...	...	...	...
Seaham Harbour	11	10	3	...	...	...	49	...
Sildon	2	2	657	...	...	9	...	...
Southwick-on-Wear	1	1	76	...	12	...	5	...
Spennymoor	6	6	151	13	...	...	13	...
Stanhope .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanley	104	104	246	32	...	...	32	...
Tanfield	27	...	65	65	19	19	46	2
Tow Law .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whickham	13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
Willington	33	33	196	...	...	...	24	...
RURAL.								
Auckland	31	31	831	48	...	41	5	...
Barnard Castle	17	16	44	3	3	3	...	9
Chester-le-Street	148	221	74	69	...	4	19	...
Darlington .....	...	...	70	...	...	...	28	...
Durham .....	...	...	14	...	...	14	...	1
Easington	234	234	395	18	...	14	14	...
Hartlepool	4	4	135	...	...	...	7	...
Houghton	42	40	124	5	5	5	32	5
Lanchester	76	76	...	...	...	4	12	4
Sedgefield	98	98	141	12	12	12	55	2
South Shields	116	35	123	57	2	...	36	...
Stockton .....	...	...	172	...	...	...	...	...
Sunderland .....	...	...	80	15	13	6	3	...
Weardale	4	...	150	4	79	...	1	...
Administrative County..	1536	1340	5318	407	207	199	575	78

STREETS.

Throughout the Country there are, unfortunately, a very large number of unmade-up streets and more particularly in the colliery districts for until comparatively recently it was no uncommon practice to build long rows of houses and to leave the streets in an unfinished state. In the winter months they are almost impassable and in dry weather they are equally objectionable, especially where the conservancy method of excrement disposal is in use. A common practice in these districts is to empty the contents of the closets on to the footpath or on to the roadway, and then to shovel it into an open cart. Thus the soil, in course of time, becomes saturated with organic matter. In wet weather the dirt from the streets is trodden into the houses, and in dry weather the dust, laden with germs of disease, is distributed broadcast. Not infrequently everything in the house is covered with dust including the larder and the food, with the result that Typhoid Fever is endemic in the colliery districts, and in the summer months there is much sickness, and the children, who are most susceptible are carried off in large numbers from epidemic diarrhoea.

I cannot believe that it is due to callousness that the present unsatisfactory condition of the streets is allowed to continue, though the slowness with which improvements are carried out might lead one to believe that rates were of greater consideration than lives, but rather to the failure of those in a position of responsibility to appreciate that it is quite as important from a health standpoint to have sanitary streets as to have an efficient system of drainage. In other words, the objection to unmade-up streets is not merely who use them but because we are convinced that such streets are a constant source of danger to the public health and more particularly when combined, as is usually the case, with the conservancy method of disposal of excreta, inefficient scavenging and unpaved back yards.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The paving, drainage, ventilation, lighting and water supply of the dairies and cowsheds in the County are being gradually improved but very much remains to be done, yet very little reference or none whatever is made in the reports of the District Medical Officers of Health to this important question of milk supply.

Radical changes, both in the production and in the method of distribution, are greatly needed and for this purpose more supervision of the dairies and cowsheds than has hitherto been the case will be required. To obtain a wholesome supply of milk it is essential that the cows should be housed in properly constructed, well lighted and ventilated buildings, and that those suffering from Tuberculosis should be eliminated from the herd, and here I would suggest that dairy farmers should be given an opportunity of having their cows tested free of charge.

The regulations which District Councils are empowered to make should prescribe the floor and cubic space for each cow irrespective of whether they are habitually turned out during a portion of each day. There should be an adequate water supply both for drinking and for washing down the cowsheds, and proper washing facilities should be provided for the milkers. Having provided suitable buildings it is of the utmost importance that the dairy farmers should have some knowledge of the hygiene of milk production, and where this is lacking facilities should be given for their instruction so as to prevent the milk from becoming contaminated before it leaves the farm.

At every dairy farm there should be a properly constructed and equipped cleansing room where the churns and milk vessels can be properly washed and stored when not in use and a copper or preferably a steam steriliser and an adequate supply of water should be provided. The milk should be cooled before leaving the farm. This should not be done, as is sometimes the case, in a cowshed, but in a separate room, and if the cooler is placed in the cleansing room the copper and steam steriliser should be fitted up in a convenient position in the yard outside the cleansing room.

The dairy, in connection with a farm or otherwise, should have a constant current of fresh air and should be used for no other purpose. As milk is very liable to become contaminated, a domestic dwelling is not a suitable place from which to retail milk. An outbreak of infectious disease at a dwelling house which is partly used for dairy purposes might seriously affect the carrying on of the business. For the same reason cans, churns and other milk vessels should not be kept in the kitchen or the scullery, and water for cleansing purposes should not be heated in a copper used for boiling soiled linen. In short, the dairy business should be conducted in a place adapted or specially constructed for the purpose, and should be entirely separate from the domestic dwelling. The approach to the dairy or cleansing room should be paved or otherwise made impervious.

To prevent contamination in transit from the farm the churns should be provided with suitable lids, which should be sealed and no mixing of milk should be allowed at railway termini. Railway companies should be required to provide sheds at the stations for churns where they can be kept out of the sun until the arrival of the train, and in the summer months there should be refrigerator vans.

Before leaving the town dairy the milk should be pasteurized and sent out in sealed bottles. The practice of dispensing milk from one can into another in the street should not be allowed.

Taking the degree of contamination as 100 it has been found after exhaustive enquiry that about 40 % of the contamination occurs in the farm and about 20 % during transit on the railway, and about the same proportion at the town dairies and at the consumer's house. Consumers should, therefore, take every precaution to safeguard the milk from contamination after delivery. In the near future it is not improbable that milk will be graded as is done in the United States.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, contains important provisions with respect to prohibition of the sale of tuberculous milk and gives considerable powers and duties to the County

Medical Officers. It also empowers the Local Government Board to make regulations to include the following purposes:—

- (a) For the registration of persons carrying on the trade of dairyman.
- (b) For the registration of the dairies.
- (c) For the inspection of cattle.
- (d) For the inspection of dairies and persons in or about dairies who have access to the milk churns, etc.
- (e) For prescribing and regulating lighting, ventilation, cleansing, drainage and water supply.
- (f) For securing the cleanliness of milk stores, milkshops, milk vessels.
- (g) For prescribing precautions against infection and contamination.
- (h) For preventing danger to health from the sale of infected, contaminated or dirty milk.
- (i.) For regulating the carting, conveyance and distribution of milk.
- (j) For the labelling, marking and identification, and the sealing of churns for the conveyance of milk.
- (k) For the prohibition of the addition of colouring matter, or manipulating the milk in any way.
- (l) For prescribing the conditions subject to which milk may be sold under the designation "Certified Milk," and prohibiting the sale of milk in respect of which the prescribed conditions are not complied with.
- (m) For authorizing a local authority to make regulations for the purposes aforesaid.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The administration of the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the County Council except in the case of the Borough of Hartlepool and the City of Durham. In the non-County Boroughs, namely, Darlington, Stockton and Jarrow, the samples, by arrange-

ment with the County Council, are taken by local officials, while in the remainder of the County they are submitted by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, who reports to the Executive Committee of the County Council.

The number of samples thus submitted to the Public Analyst during the year ended 30th September, 1915, was 1,052, and of these 84 were taken in Darlington, 32 in Stockton and 29 in Jarrow. Of these 125 or 11·9 % were adulterated or below the standard.

The number examined each quarter and the results are here given :—

			Not Genuine		Proportion
Samples Examined.			or below Standard.		per cent.
1st Quarter	.....	293	...	37	12·62
2nd Quarter	.....	266	...	31	11·65
3rd Quarter	.....	237	...	26	10·97
4th Quarter	.....	256	...	31	12·10
<hr/>			<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	.....	1,052	...	125	11·9
<hr/>			<hr/>		<hr/>

Of the 1,052 articles of food, 318 were samples of milk and the total given below is a result of the analysis as shown, from which it will be seen that out of 319 samples 97 were said to be either adulterated or below standard. In 1914 the percentage below the standard was 40·28, in 1913 22·3, and in 1912 16·4. From these figures it will be concluded that the sophistication of the milk supply of the County is on the increase.

			Not Genuine		Proportion
Samples Examined.			or below Standard.		per cent.
1st Quarter	.....	91	...	28	30·7
2nd Quarter	.....	79	...	20	25·3
3rd Quarter	.....	66	...	21	33·3
4th Quarter	.....	82	...	28	32·7
<hr/>			<hr/>		<hr/>
Total.....		318	...	97	30
<hr/>			<hr/>		<hr/>

MIDWIVES ACT.

The administration of the Midwives Act has been delegated to a Committee of the County Council, and the County Medical Officer is the Executive Officer. An Inspector of Midwives has been appointed to inspect the midwives. She also makes enquiries into all cases where midwives have sent for medical help, cases of deaths occurring in the practice of midwives, cases of Puerperal Fever and cases of Ophthalmia. Much of her time is also taken up in following up cases of uncertified midwifery practice.

The number of certified midwives living in the County on the 31st March, 1916, was 229. Of these 111 have passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board and hold their certificate, but the number who are in practice, including the bona fide midwives who were placed on the register when the Act came into operation, is only 133.

In 1915, 5 cases of Puerperal Fever occurred in the practice of midwives. Immediate enquiries were made in each case and directions given to prevent the recurrence of similar cases. The number of still-births reported was 104, and in 263 cases midwives sent for medical help. The deaths of one mother and 26 infants occurred in their practice. The total number of births in the Administrative County in 1915 was 26,076, and of these 5,167 were notified by midwives.

Three certified midwives were reported to the Central Midwives Board and 3 censured by the Local Supervising Authority. Visits were paid to 86 uncertified women, and where it was proved that they were acting as midwives other than in cases of emergency, they were warned.

There has been a very marked improvement in the cleanliness and efficiency of the midwives since the administration of the Act has been undertaken by the County Council. It is now quite the exception to find a midwife's bag and appliances other than in good order.

The deaths of 3 midwives were reported during the year.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD ENQUIRIES.

The following Local Government Board Enquiries were held during the year in respect of applications from local authorities in the County relative to public health matters:—

1915.	Applicant.	Amount.	Purpose.	Result.
Mar. 3	Borough of Hartlepool.	...	<p>Petition under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1909, for the issue of an order to confirm an Improvement Scheme made by the said Council under the said Acts and to declare the limits of the area comprised in the Scheme, and to authorise its being carried into execution.</p> <p>The area of the Scheme comprises certain lands in and adjoining Fox Street, Wells Street, Ropery Lane, Johnson Square, Cleveland Street, Chapman Street, Northwell Street, Tweddle Street and Tweddle Court, in the said Borough.</p>	Scheme confirmed subject to certain modifications.
June 8	Sunderland Rural District Council.	£22,260 and £450	<p>Application for sanction to borrow the sum of £22,260 for the purchase of land and the erection of working-class dwellings in the Parish of Ryhope under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, and the sum of £450 for works of sewerage in connection with the scheme.</p>	Withdrawn on the representation of L.G.B. This scheme to be embodied in a larger one at the conclusion of the War.

1915.	Applicant.	Amount.	Purpose.	Result.
June 24	River Tees Port Sanitary Authority.	£2,250	Application for sanction to borrow the sum of £2,250 for the construction of a new foundation for, and the removal thereto of, their Floating Hospital.	Not proceeded with.
July 1	County Borough of West Hartlepool.	...	Application under Part II. of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, for authority to prepare a Town Planning Scheme with reference to an area situate partly within the County Borough and partly within the Rural District of Hartlepool.	Scheme approved by L.G.B.
Sept. 29	W. R. Walker, Esq., Egglesstone, Darlington.	...	Appeal by the owner of certain dwelling-houses known as Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Hardy's Row, Shildon, against a Closing Order, made by the Urban District Council of Shildon, prohibiting the use of such dwellings for human habitation until in the judgment of the Council the said dwelling-houses are rendered fit for that purpose.	L.G.B. confirmed the Closing Order.

COUNTY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES.

The following Enquiries, bearing on public health administration, were held by the County Council during 1915:—

1915.	Applicant.	Subject of Enquiry.	Result.
July 6	Whickham U.D.C.	<p>Application</p> <p>(1) to increase the number of District Councillors from 15 to 18.</p> <p>(2) to alter the boundaries of the existing Wards of the Urban District, and</p> <p>(3) to allot the number of District Councillors to such Wards.</p>	Granted.
Dec. 13	Stanley U.D.C.	<p>Proposed amalgamation of the Townships of Stanley, Oxhill and South Moor.</p>	Approved.

BOROUGH.

DURHAM.

A. M. VANN, M.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	17,550	17,550
Birth-rate	20·91	26·44
Death-rate (Crude)	19·77	18·69
Death-rate (Standardized)..	19·63	18·56
Zymotic death-rate	2·50	1·94
Phthisis death-rate	1·13	0·85
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·36	1·31
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·93	2·73
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	163	148

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications.. .. .	94	132
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	29	54
Diphtheria	17	22
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	3	9
Puerperal fever	2	4
Cases treated at hospital ..	31	64
Measles	(21)	(3)
Whooping cough	(7)	(6)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(12)	(19)

Measles was exceptionally prevalent and fatal.

The work of converting privies into water-closets was continued. At the end of 1915 there were 2,683 W.C.'s, 507 privies, 93 ash closets, and 399 ashpits, the number of privies having been reduced by 118 during the last three years.

Under the Housing Acts 292 dwellings were inspected and 4 Closing Orders were made in respect of houses considered unfit for habitation.

HARTLEPOOL.

GEORGE JUBB, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	18,819	21,130
Birth-rate	29·01	30·81
Death-rate (Crude)	19·82	18·08
Death-rate (Standardized)	20·22	18·45
Zymotic death-rate	1·75	0·76
Phthisis death-rate	1·43	0·85
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·86	1·09
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·40	2·79
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	93	130

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	163	117
Small-pox	nil	nil.
Scarlet fever	35	21
Diphtheria	12	3
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	2	nil.
Puerperal fever	nil.	2
Cases treated at Hospital ..	35	11
Measles	(13)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(7)	(3)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(6)	(12)

There was a satisfactory reduction of the Infant Mortality Rate. The Health Visitor reports that 96 % of the 352 infants visited were breast fed.

Under the Housing Acts 29 dwellings were closed, 17 after purchase by the Corporation, and 9 were subsequently demolished.

Dr. Jubb says:—"The most interesting event of the year was the holding of a Local Government Enquiry on 3rd March, as a result of which a Provisional Order was issued empowering the Corporation to proceed with the Cleveland Street Improvement Scheme. Most of the preliminaries have now been arranged, and little remains but to proceed with the building whenever the times are propitious."

JARROW-ON-TYNE.

J. M. NICOLL, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	33,466	36,500
Birth-rate	30·95	32·63
Death-rate Crude)	22·82	16·85
Death-rate (Standardized)..	23·23	17·15
Zymotic death-rate	3·64	1·78
Phthisis death-rate	2·06	1·72
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	2·09	2·41
Respiratory diseases death-rate	5·46	3·04
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	150	108

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications.	445	829
Smallpox	nil	nil.
Scarlet fever	119	474
Diphtheria	40	63
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	6	32
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	nil	463
Measles	(64)	(1)
Whooping cough	(14)	(8)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(34)	(31)

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health has not been forwarded to the County Council, and the above figures for 1915 are taken from the County Medical Officer's statistics.

STOCKTON.

THOMAS HORNE, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Vital Statistics</i>			<i>Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).</i>		
	1915.	1914.		1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	57,882	59,311	Total notifications	564	710
Birth-rate	28·88	30·56	Smallpox	nil	nil
Death-rate (Crude)	18·39	17·71	Scarlet fever	188	329
Death-rate (Standardized) .	18·75	18·05	Diphtheria	91	77
Zymotic death-rate	2·40	1·94	Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	13	22
Phthisis death-rate	1·15	1·36	Puerperal fever	4	1
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·81	2·12	Cases treated at hospital ..	306	312
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·52	3·24	Measles	(62)	(27)
Infant mortality rate per			Whooping cough	(11)	(20)
1,000 births	127	121	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under		
			2 years)	(43)	(47)

Dr. Horne points out that owing to depletion of the sanitary staff there has been a diminished activity in many important sanitary matters, and adds that "In many matters, to 'carry on' 'in as effective a manner as circumstances will allow, has been the "sole legitimate abiding ambition."

As regards Maternity and Child Welfare work, he reported that towards the end of the year the Corporation decided to take over the Stockton and Norton Babies' Welcome Society, which has done excellent work, and to establish a Municipal Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. To stimulate public interest in Infant Welfare, the Mayor undertook to present bounties of £5 in the proportion of at least one bounty to every 10 babies submitted, in respect of children born during his year of office as Mayor, and subsequently attaining the age of 1 year, and who were to be chosen by expert judges as most deserving of award.

Not a single death from Enteric Fever occurred in the Borough during the year, and only 13 cases were notified.

Only 79 houses were inspected under the Housing Acts, and Closing Orders were made in respect of two of them.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

W. M. MORISON, L.R.C.P., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	18,000	17,700
Birth-rate	25·72	31·52
Death-rate (Crude)	15·17	15·82
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	15·52	16·27
Zymotic death-rate	1·88	2·10
Phthisis death-rate	1·38	0·85
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	2·05	1·41
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·94	2·20
Infant mortality - rate per 1,000 births	137	132

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	187	188
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	23	92
Diphtheria	32	21
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	4	2
Puerperal fever	nil.	2
Cases treated at hospital ..	50	96
Measles	(23)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(nil.)	(10)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(8)	(17)

Measles was extremely prevalent and fatal.

There was nothing of exceptional sanitary interest in the report, and the following extract from it sums up the situation:—

“It was also on instructions from your Council that during
 “the continuance of the War, no work necessitating structural
 “alterations and costly expenses that could be avoided was to be
 “recommended by this Department. This was kept in view when
 “suggestions were made to remedy defects and sanitary conditions.
 “All other minor defects and complaints were promptly attended
 “to during the year, and with the one exception of the scavenging
 “contracts, which have been under consideration by you, the work
 “of this Department was satisfactorily carried out.”

BARNARD CASTLE.

C. H. WELFORD, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	4,206	4,872
Birth-rate	20·68	18·67
Death-rate (Crude)	22·11	13·54
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	21·13	12·94
Zymotic death-rate	1·66	0·20
Phthisis death-rate	0·23	0·82
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·42	1·03
Respiratory diseases death-rate	4·75	2·05
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	80	109

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	145	29
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	10	8
Diphtheria	16	1
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	nil.	1
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	21	6
Measles	(2)	(nil.)
Whooping Cough	(1)	(nil.)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(1)	(1)

Attention was called to the fact that while the quality of the water supply of the town was more satisfactory, the quantity was not always sufficient during the dry summer months, and Dr. Welford considers that the Council should take this matter into serious consideration.

BENFIELDSIDE.

WM. ALLEN, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	7,560	8,500
Birth-rate	28·96	28·12
Death-rate (Crude)	17·82	15·29
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	18·84	16·17
Zymotic death-rate	2·91	2·23
Phthisis death-rate	1·05	1·29
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·85	1·88
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·57	2·12
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	114	104

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	280	113
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	118	40
Diphtheria	106	35
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	7	1
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	169	59
Measles	(2)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(1)	(1)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(3)	(12)

The good work of the Health Visitor is spoken of, and it is stated that the two Mothers' Welcomes recently established in the district are increasingly popular.

During the year the number of water-closets increased from 467 to 506, whilst the ashpit-privies decreased from 703 to 657.

Under the Housing Acts 26 houses were inspected and 2 Closing Orders made, these houses subsequently being put into repair.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

T. A. McCULLAGH, M.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population.. ..	14,687	14,687
Birth-rate	21·57	27·64
Death-rate (Crude)	16·95	13·95
Death-rate (Standardized)..	16·68	13·73
Zymotic death-rate	2·45	1·63
Phthisis death-rate	0·95	0·61
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·36	1·16
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·26	2·24
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	157	142

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	86	204
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	42	110
Diphtheria	6	18
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	10	26
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	21	63
Measles	(12)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(7)	(5)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(15)	(16)

During the year 11 ashpit-privies were converted into ash-closets, and 32 into water-closets, but there are still 530 ashpit-privies and 753 ash-closets in the Urban District.

BLAYDON.

H. MORRISON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	36,327	36,093
Birth-rate	28·35	31·50
Death-rate (Crude)	13·48	13·82
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14·29	14·66
Zymotic death-rate	1·92	2·05
Phthisis death-rate	0·49	0·83
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·90	1·19
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·91	1·69
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births.. .. .	134	146

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	327	606
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	152	394
Diphtheria	64	43
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	6	30
Puerperal fever	2	4
Cases treated at hospital ..	nil	?
Measles	(35)	(3)
Whooping cough	(3)	(13)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(16)	(41)

The above figures are taken from the County Medical Officer's returns.

Sixty-three new houses were built and all were provided with water-closets. The total number of various types of sanitary conveniences are as follows: Water-closets, 1,624; ash-closets, 3,188; privy middens, 1,025. 188 notices were served to convert privy middens into water-closets, but owing to the shortage of water the notices were not put in force.

BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES.

HENRY SMITH, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	18,935	18,612
Birth-rate	30·83	32·02
Death-rate (Crude)	17·32	14·56
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	18·07	15·19
Zymotic death-rate	3·85	2·84
Phthisis death-rate	0·63	0·53
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·73	0·91
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·33	2·10
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	125	134

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	107	158
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	34	65
Diphtheria	21	43
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	9	21
Puerperal fever	1	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	52	83
Measles	(58)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(5)	(4)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(2)	(32)

Amended plans for a new Isolation Hospital have been submitted to the Local Government Board.

Measles was most seriously epidemic, causing an exceptionally high mortality.

Under the Housing Acts 284 houses were inspected but no Closing Orders were made, though defects were remedied in 26. At Brandon Colliery 25 two-roomed houses are reported to have been converted into 4-roomed dwellings.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

D. DUNCAN, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	14,091	15,827
Birth-rate	27·60	29·72
Death-rate (Crude)	16·18	14·53
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	16·33	14·71
Zymotic death-rate	3·54	3·09
Phthisis death-rate	0·78	0·63
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·13	1·32
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·69	2·21
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	126	155

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	120	206
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	49	123
Diphtheria	11	13
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	22	20
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at Hospital ..	55	80
Measles	(31)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(6)	(9)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(7)	(28)

With regard to the cases of Enteric Fever, it is stated that the majority of cases is a legacy of the outbreak of the previous year when the water supply was irregular and insufficient. Seven cases were due to gross carelessness and overcrowding.

Measles was very fatally prevalent.

The agreement between the Durham, etc., Joint Hospital Committee and the Chester-le-Street Joint Hospital Board for the use of the Smallpox Hospital at Shincliffe was approved of by the Local Government Board and came into force on the 1st September.

The erection of 50 new houses under the Housing Acts has been greatly retarded by the want of workmen, and only eight were completed and occupied during the year, the rents varying from 6/9 to 7/9 per week.

CONSETT.

A. D. M. MACINTYRE, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	11,733	11,898
Birth-rate	24.54	30.92
Death-rate (Crude)	17.98	19.24
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	19.24	20.61
Zymotic death-rate	2.81	4.37
Phthisis death-rate	0.93	0.50
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.35	0.68
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3.66	3.61
Infant Mortality-rate per 1,000 births	118	193

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	224	114
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	139	47
Diphtheria	56	40
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	nil	nil
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	161	63
Measles	(3)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(3)	(21)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(4)	(19)

Only 16 new houses were erected during the year. Water-closets and impervious yard spaces were provided in every case. There has been a decrease of overcrowding as the result of the enlistment of a portion of the male population.

With regard to the conversion of ashpit-privies and ash-closets into water-closets, in a number of cases where the privies were not insanitary, the Council laid the new drains free of charge and contributed £1 towards the cost of each conversion.

One of the two cowsheds in the district was found to be in an insanitary condition and was ordered to be closed.

CROOK.

A. MACKAY, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	12,000	12,500
Birth-rate	30·16	27·60
Death-rate (Crude)	16·80	14·08
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	17·03	14·38
Zymotic death-rate	4·41	1·12
Phthisis death-rate	0·83	1·28
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·16	1·44
Respiratory diseases death-rate..	2·58	2·24
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	129	130

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	194	142
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	85	45
Diphtheria	66	44
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	3	4
Puerperal fever	1	4
Cases treated at hospital ..	118	79
Measles	(19)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(5)	(2)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(15)	(8)

Dr. Mackay believes direct infection, probably at schools, was the source of the spread of Diphtheria. At one school, where there was a severe outbreak amongst children belonging to one standard, swabs were taken from suspicious throats, while the school holidays were extended and the classrooms thoroughly disinfected, with the result that the number of notified cases rapidly decreased. Fifty-four cases of Diphtheria were isolated in hospital.

The substitution of water-closets for ash-privies, where the contents of these conveniences are wheeled through passages and deposited in the front streets by the scavengers, is strongly urged.

Improvements to dwelling houses at Mount Pleasant, Freeholders' Homes, Roddymoor and Grahamsley are noted.

FELLING.

WM. E. PEACOCK, M.D., B.Hy., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	25,910	25,910
Birth-rate	29·13	31·99
Death-rate (Crude)	18·75	17·40
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	19·00	17·63
Zymotic death-rate	2·31	2·73
Phthisis death-rate	1·38	1·39
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·81	2·16
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	3·23	3·01
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	123	106

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	246	337
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	109	225
Diphtheria	1	9
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	3	3
Puerperal fever	1	1
Cases treated at hospital ..	111	228
Measles	(23)	(21)
Whooping cough	(nil.)	(7)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(33)	(16)

During the year, from the spring until October, a Military Camp was located in the district, with a total strength of 3,860 men. Arrangements were made for the disposal of all refuse before the brigade marched in, and the Council undertook the cleansing of all latrines. The health of the Camp was excellent and no cases of infectious disease occurred during their 5 months' stay. Some thousands of articles were disinfected for the military authorities at the Isolation Hospital.

HEBBURN.

E. E. NORMAN, M.B., B.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population	23,580	23,580
Birth-rate	31·76	33·29
Death-rate (Crude)	15·90	15·39
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	16·64	16·11
Zymotic death-rate	2·12	2·97
Phthisis death-rate	1·31	1·65
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·90	2·37
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·47	2·33
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	109	111

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	283	585
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	109	353
Diphtheria	11	38
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	9	16
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	125	351
Measles	(21)	(29)
Whooping cough	(1)	(9)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(22)	(21)

It is stated that the population remains the same as the previous year, a large influx of new residents, mainly munition workers, having made good the loss of a large number of men entering the military and naval services.

The infant-mortality rate was the lowest on record.

A case of Typhus Fever occurred in December, but there was no spread of the disease from the original patient. The source of infection could not be ascertained.

The shortage of houses and consequent congestion and overcrowding continues to be very marked. The housing conditions were carefully enquired into by one of the Local Government Board Inspectors. The Board subsequently suggested to the District Council that they should consider the advisability of preparing a scheme for the erection of houses by themselves under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

The Inspector of Nuisances having resigned, Mr. Robert McKellar was appointed in his place.

HETTON-LE-HOLE.

J. ADAMSON, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Vital Statistics.</i>				<i>Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).</i>			
	1915.	1914.			1915.	1914.	
Estimated Population ..	16,300	16,200		Total notifications ..	328	290	
Birth-rate ..	34.60	36.35		Smallpox ..	nil	nil	
Death-rate (Crude) ..	17.55	17.77		Scarlet fever ..	39	199	
Death-rate (Standardized)..	17.53	17.75		Diphtheria ..	33	32	
Zymotic death-rate ..	2.20	2.71		Fevers (Enteric, &c.) ..	8	22	
Phthisis death-rate ..	1.10	1.11		Puerperal fever ..	nil	nil	
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	2.02	1.66		Cases treated at hospital ..	47	83	
Respiratory diseases death-				Measles ..	(11)	(2)	
rate ..	2.82	2.71		Whooping cough ..	(10)	(19)	
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000				Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under			
births ..	152	168		2 years) ..	(11)	(15)	

The necessity for providing additional dwelling houses in the district is strongly urged as “it is well known to you that at the present time your officers are seriously handicapped and have been for years in enforcing Closing Orders, as there is no place for the occupants of a house on which a Closing Order has been served can go. . . . I would suggest that what is necessary is that your Council erect a considerable number of houses to be let at a rental suitable for the pocket of the working man. This would mark the beginning of an undertaking which would do much for the improved health and comfort of the inhabitants of the district; better houses are calculated to have a moral as well as physical effect on those benefitting thereby.”

The Inspector of Nuisances in his report refers to the advisability of finding new refuse tips in the near future, and also regrets that his Council did not decide to buy any specially-constructed carts for the removal of house refuse. The carts at present in use appear to be unsatisfactory and their use in hot weather and on windy days is objectionable.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

D. S. PARK, F.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	10,619	10,619
Birth-rate	27·21	30·98
Death-rate (Crude)	17·04	16·38
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	16·72	16·32
Zymotic death-rate	1·78	3·20
Phthisis death-rate	0·94	1·13
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·31	1·32
Respiratory diseases death-rate	4·23	2·55
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	148	176

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths)

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	62	226
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	26	155
Diphtheria	11	18
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	5	22
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	24	43
Measles	(2)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(nil)	(2)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(5)	(21)

The Report for the first half of the year was prepared by Dr. Park, and for the latter half by Dr. Condell, Dr. Park having retired.

The 52 houses erected during the year by the District Council, under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, were all occupied.

Owing to subsidences, the sewage farm was not in a satisfactory condition.

Owing to delay on the part of the owner in making habitable 19 houses in Pit Row, Closing Orders were served, and it is stated that the owners are now engaged on the work which when completed will greatly improve the sanitary condition of this street.

LEADGATE.

WM. ALLEN, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	4,791	5,000
Birth-rate	30·45	31·00
Death-rate (Crude)	18·37	17·20
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	18·45	17·27
Zymotic death-rate	2·08	3·40
Phthisis death-rate	0·83	0·40
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·25	1·00
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·50	1·40
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	164	180

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	90	71
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	58	53
Diphtheria	12	7
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	nil	nil
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	60	58
Measles	(2)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(nil)	(5)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years)	(7)	(10)

The whole of the district is stated to have been inspected but the continuance of the War prevented the Council taking any steps except in cases where immediate repairs were necessary.

Under the Housing Acts 157 dwellings were inspected; no Closing Orders were made but in 23 cases defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders. There are stated to have been more cases of overcrowding than usual during the year.

RYTON.

JAMES W. SMITH, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	13,256	14,250
Birth-rate	31·60	29·82
Death-rate (Crude)	13·27	11·64
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	13·35	11·72
Zymotic death-rate	2·64	1·47
Phthisis death-rate	0·52	0·56
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·05	0·91
Respiratory diseases death-rate	1·50	1·33
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	97	108

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	162	250
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	76	151
Diphtheria	49	34
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	10	14
Puerperal fever	nil	1
Cases treated at hospital ..	65	112
Measles	(25)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(2)	(1)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(2)	(8)

The report states that the Registrar-General's estimate of population (11,286) is very much too low owing to the influx of munition and other workers, and in calculating the death-rates a population of 13,256 has been taken.

Of the 41 infantile deaths, 21 occurred during the first month of life and 16 during the first week. The importance of effective steps being taken as regards child welfare, including the establishment of pre-maternity hospitals, is urged.

Measles was extremely fatal and was the most serious epidemic in the experience of the Medical Officer of Health. It is pointed out that while it may not be easy to prevent the spread of Measles, much could be done in preventing cases having a fatal termination, especially if careful nursing is provided.

Of the 57 new houses built and occupied, 50 were provided with W.C.'s, and it is urged that every house, where possible, should be provided with water carriage.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

LUKE G. DILLON, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	18,700	18,500
Birth-rate	29·67	32·59
Death-rate (Crude)	16·47	13·24
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	16·93	13·61
Zymotic death-rate	2·56	1·62
Phthisis death-rate	1·06	1·08
Total Tuberculosis death-rate ..	1·44	1·46
Respiratory diseases death-rate	4·06	2·87
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	162	122

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	73	91
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	21	18
Diphtheria	8	3
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	1	22
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital	6	26
Measles	(17)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(4)	(nil)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(22)	(23)

There was a considerable rise in the Infant Mortality Rate and 39 of the deaths were in consequence of prematurity, congenital debility, and imperfect development.

The services of the County Health Visitor are eulogised.

The District Council has resolved that all new buildings must in future be provided with water-closets where possible.

SHILDON.

L. C NASH, L.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	12,974	14,103
Birth-rate	29·89	32·33
Death-rate (Crude)	18·26	15·31
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	18·17	15·23
Zymotic death-rate	1·77	2·26
Phthisis death-rate	0·84	0·49
Total Tuberculosis death-rate ..	1·46	1·13
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·31	2·45
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	141	142

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	108	133
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	35	44
Diphtheria	20	25
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	8	13
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital	61	46
Measles	(17)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(3)	(13)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(1)	16)

Of the 55 deaths of infants under 1 year, 25 were certified as being due to premature birth and congenital debility, and Dr. Nash says no doubt a goodly proportion are due to weakly parents, insanitary surroundings, and improper feeding and has the opinion that syphilis plays its part in this mortality.

The high mortality from Measles is commented upon and also the carelessness and ignorance of parents with patients in not protecting the latter from complications which are so often fatal after an attack of this disease.

Special reference is made in the report to the increase in the prevalence of Syphilis.

The owner of 8 houses in Hardy's Row and one in Back Queen Street appealed against Closing Orders being made by the District Council, but after a Local Government Board Enquiry, the Closing Orders were confirmed but they have not yet been enforced. The houses in Pit Row are reported to be unfit for habitation.

Reference is made to the good work accomplished by the County Health Visitor.

The installation of water-closets in place of ashpit-privies is specially recommended and also the abolition or alteration of 2-roomed back-to-back houses.

SOUTHWICK-ON-WEAR.

JOHN J. CARRUTHERS, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	13,634	14,183
Birth-rate	31.76	35.60
Death-rate (Crude)	19.43	16.92
Death-rate (Standardized)	20.05	17.47
Zymotic death-rate	1.82	1.90
Phthisis death-rate	0.95	0.84
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.61	1.62
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3.66	3.03
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	150	144

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915	1914.
Total notifications	100	133
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	45	35
Diphtheria	8	9
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	3	2
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital..	42	69
Measles	(7)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(nil.)	(6)
Diarrhoea and enteritis (under 2 years)	(15)	(13)

All the cases of Enteric Fever and 87% of the cases of Scarlet Fever were isolated in hospital.

Privy-middens to the number of 47 were abolished and the water-carriage system substituted.

The provision of a public slaughter-house is recommended.

SPENNYMOOR.

W. MUSSELLWHITE, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	16,785	18,340
Birth-rate	33·12	35·21
Death-rate (Crude)	18·58	17·23
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	20·32	17·39
Zymotic death rate	2·50	2·83
Phthisis death-rate	1·19	0·82
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·54	1·47
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·69	2·29
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	122	137

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	230	150
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	151	69
Diphtheria	10	11
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	3	15
Puerperal fever	1	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	107	96
Measles	(15)	(13)
Whooping cough	(4)	(nil.)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(18)	(35)

As the result of an inspection that was made, 13 out of 151 houses were considered unfit for human habitation, but all defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders.

Two cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever occurred and were treated in hospital and in one case the infection may have been contracted from soldiers.

Attention is drawn in the report to the unsatisfactory manner in which the scavenging is carried out and it was found impossible to perform the work at nights although, in the contracts, this is required to be done. The District Council are stated to be considering the advisability of themselves undertaking the scavenging of one or two districts with their own staff as an experiment.

STANHOPE.

JOHN GRAY, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	1,792	2,000
Birth-rate	23·99	18·00
Death-rate (Crude)	16·12	15·00
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14·96	13·92
Zymotic death-rate	nil.	0·50
Phthisis death-rate	0·55	0·50
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·55	1·50
Respiratory diseases death-rate	1·11	2·00
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	93	166

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	24	32
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	4	17
Diphtheria	18	14
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	nil.	nil.
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	18	20
Measles	(nil.)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(nil.)	(1)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(nil.)	(nil.)

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, 52 houses were inspected and none were found unfit for habitation. It was stated that on the whole, the houses of the working classes compare very favourably with other towns of this size.

The water reservoir which under normal conditions contains sufficient for one day's supply only, was cut off morning and evening for a short period during the drought as a precautionary measure. The supply is obtained from several moorland springs.

STANLEY.

E. G. D. BENSON, L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Vital Statistics.</i>				<i>Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).</i>			
		1915.	1914.			1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	28,000	27,300		Total notifications ..	..	330	227
Birth-rate	28.50	33.77		Smallpox .. ..	..	nil.	nil.
Death-rate (Crude) ..	13.82	14.54		Scarlet fever ..	..	165	109
Death-rate (Standardized)	14.36	15.64		Diphtheria .. ..	..	35	18
Zymotic death-rate ..	2.60	1.46		Fevers (Enteric, &c.) ..	..	nil.	5
Phthisis death-rate ..	0.46	0.73		Puerperal fever ..	..	nil.	4
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.00	1.24		Cases treated at hospital ..	..	206	138
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	3.10	2.56		Measles .. ..	..	(36)	(nil.)
Infant mortality-rate per				Whooping cough ..	..	(8)	(2)
1,000 births	130	150		Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under			
				2 years) .. ..	..	(16)	(27)

There was an increase in the number of new houses erected during the year from 61 in 1914 to 104.

During the year 81 ash-closets were converted into water-closets.

Under the Housing Act Regulations 246 houses were inspected, 32 were found to be unfit for human habitation, 31 were voluntarily closed permanently, and in 32 dwelling houses the necessary repairs were made without Closing Orders being necessary.

TANFIELD.

E. G. D. BENSON, L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	10,935	10,800
Birth-rate	24·87	31·20
Death-rate (Crude)	12·93	12·59
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	13·39	12·99
Zymotic death-rate	0·73	1·85
Phthisis death-rate	0·73	0·37
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·37	0·55
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·01	1·66
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	132	166

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths)

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	143	117
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	47	30
Diphtheria	21	27
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	2	6
Puerperal fever	1	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	69	61
Measles	(3)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(nil)	(4)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(1)	(14)

It is stated that “the Tuberculosis Dispensary at Stanley has “proved a great boon to the district, not only for the treatment “patients receive, but also for the bringing home to the people the “precautions to be observed for the prevention of the dissemination “of the disease.”

Of the 65 houses inspected under the Housing Acts, 19 were condemned as totally unfit for habitation. 46 houses were made habitable without Closing Orders being necessary.

During the year 52 privies were abolished, the water-carriage system being introduced where suitable.

TOW LAW.

J. H. NAISMITH, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	4,304	4,327
Birth-rate	23·00	31·89
Death-rate (Crude)	14·86	10·16
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14·94	10·22
Zymotic death-rate	0·92	0·69
Phthisis death-rate	0·23	0·46
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·46	0·46
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·78	1·16
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	141	43

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	81	13
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	70	5
Diphtheria	4	2
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	2	nil
Puerperal fever	2	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	nil	6
Measles	(nil)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(nil)	(nil)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(1)	(2)

The figures for 1915 given above are taken from the County Medical Officer's returns.

The ash-privy system is still very pronounced in this district and it is stated that "The water-carriage system has not made much advance, neither can we possibly expect it."

Many of the back streets are stated to be in a deplorable condition during bad weather.

WHICKHAM.

ANDREW SMITH, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	18,898	20,575
Birth-rate	28.20	26.73
Death-rate (Crude) ..	14.02	12.72
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14.91	13.53
Zymotic death-rate ..	2.06	1.50
Phthisis death-rate ..	0.79	1.45
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.48	1.39
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	2.27	1.60
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	125	114

Infectious Diseases--Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	154	248
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	70	116
Diphtheria	35	65
Fevers (Enteric, &c.) ..	3	4
Puerperal fever	nil	2
Cases treated at hospital ..	73	115
Measles	(21)	(4)
Whooping cough	(10)	(1)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(4)	(15)

Dr. Smith thinks the compulsory notification of Measles will be effective in lessening its mortality.

As regards infant mortality, a great reduction is expected from the establishment of Child Welfare Centres, especially if, in association with them, residence for a time in hospitals under specially skilled nurses can be secured. A Cottage Hospital in the district, as soon as Peace is established, is strongly urged.

It is stated that overcrowding, especially at Dunston, has become aggravated owing to munition workers residing in the district, while house building has been almost totally in abeyance. Owing to shortage of labour the work of abolishing back-to-back houses has made very little progress and nothing has been done towards making up the roads and streets.

WILLINGTON.

R. E. BROWN, L.R.C.P., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	8,796	9,029
Birth-rate	27·85	29·90
Death rate (Crude)	15·34	11·83
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	15·59	12·02
Zymotic death-rate	2·16	1·33
Phthisis death-rate	0·54	0·22
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·68	0·44
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·16	2·10
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	97	122

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	25	32
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	11	16
Diphtheria	9	2
Fevens (Enteric, &c.)	2	1
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	21	17
Measles	(11)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(4)	(nil)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(3)	(11)

It is reported that the scavenging has been at times inadequately performed owing, it is stated, to shortage of labour.

Under the Housing Acts, 196 houses were inspected. None were considered unfit for habitation and in 24 cases defects were remedied.

54 ash-closets and 14 water-closets were provided in place of midden-privies, and the abolition of all midden-privies in the district is urged as well as improvements in the housing accommodation and the making, paving, and channelling of the private streets.

RURAL DISTRICTS.

AUCKLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

T. C. PENFOLD, M.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	67,644	60,055
Birth-rate	25·61	33·38
Death-rate (Crude)	14·26	15·50
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14·42	15·67
Zymotic death-rate	2·42	2·51
Phthisis death-rate	0·62	0·58
Total Tuberculosis death-rate ..	1·00	0·93
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	2·66	2·11
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	135	133

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	661	814
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	381	537
Diphtheria	85	94
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	33	58
Puerperal fever	7	3
Cases treated at hospital ..	351	445
Measles	(69)	(31)
Whooping cough	(6)	(15)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(41)	(66)

Under the Housing Acts, 2,004 houses were inspected and as a result 60 Representations were made to the local authority, and the same number of Closing Orders made. Three houses were voluntarily closed while in a number of instances the necessary repairs were made without the Closing Orders having been made operative.

Three back streets at Howden-le-Wear have been paved with impervious material under the Private Street Works Act.

1,136 notices were served in respect of nuisances, but in only 544 cases were the nuisances abated as it was found practically impossible to obtain men to do the work required.

No reference is made in the report to the causes, etc., of the Enteric Fever cases.

BARNARD CASTLE RURAL DISTRICT.

JAMES C. NELIGAN, L.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	11,378	12,027
Birth-rate	23·90	21·61
Death-rate (Crude)	17·40	14·05
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	16·52	13·35
Zymotic death-rate	0·52	0·75
Phthisis death-rate	0·43	0·66
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·61	0·83
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·28	0·91
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	113	100

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	85	279
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	70	237
Diphtheria	3	20
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	1	nil
Puerperal fever	2	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	43	174
Measles	(1)	(1)
Whooping cough	(3)	(1)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(nil)	(1)

Under the Housing Acts 44 dwelling houses were inspected and 3 Closing Orders made as the result of Representations relating to houses considered to be unfit for habitation. Nine houses were made habitable following the making of Closing Orders.

There was frequent shortage of water at Cockfield owing to the pipes being frequently fractured by colliery subsidences. The water supply at Newbiggin was quite inadequate during the summer and "a more plentiful supply should be obtained before "another dry season occurs."

The report states that there is at present a sufficiency of good and habitable houses for working men in the district.

Improvements to the sewage tank at Whorlton are reported.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT.

JOHN TAYLOR, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	67,194	67,194
Birth-rate	30·46	33·42
Death-rate (Crude)	15·93	14·40
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	16·55	14·92
Zymotic death-rate	3·24	2·59
Phthisis death-rate	1·14	0·55
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·77	1·05
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·56	1·99
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	136	141

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	851	1,108
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	450	726
Diphtheria	151	89
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	8	33
Puerperal fever	5	5
Cases treated at hospital ..	346	375
Measles	(110)	(3)
Whooping cough	(30)	(23)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(36)	(95)

The estimated population was stated to be undoubtedly high, but if the population is that estimated by the Registrar-General, the death-rate would be 17·47 per 1,000 living. It is pointed out that the Infant Mortality Rate has decreased from 175·5 per 1,000 births during the 20 years ended 1905 to 149·5 during the 10 years ended 1915. Dr. Taylor thinks that the chief causes of infant mortality are want of proper care of the very young infant and intemperance, and on this subject he states "I do not hesitate to say that the reduction of infant loss by death has been chiefly effected by the Health Visitor, more, I think, by her presence than by her preaching. Every individual is prone to promise reform and retrenchment, but not so many are inclined to perform such unless they have some moral force behind them, pushing them on to keep their promises.

"The knowledge that the Health Visitor is coming, and the shame engendered to let the lady see the children untidy and the house dirty, spurs the sloven to keep the house clean and the children free from dirt and vermin.

"To further reduce the deaths of children, authorities must improve the house and its surroundings and improve the moral of the people, and chiefly the moral of the slovenly parent by the Health Visitor, and to do this effectively the Health Visitors must be increased in numbers so that visits may be made to each house at least weekly, and so provide proper supervision, not only for the newly-born child or infant of a few months old, but for older children, so that those children may be taught cleanliness in person and clothes."

As regards the prevention of Tuberculosis, Dr. Taylor expresses the opinion that up to now sanatorium treatment has been of doubtful benefit and not worth the time or the money spent on it, and on this subject he says "The larger portion of the patients do not appreciate in the least the money and effort spent on them, and really appear to consider that they are conferring a huge benefit on sanatoria, when they become patients therein.

"For educational purposes two month's residence in a sanatorium, and only once for any one patient, is all the sanatorium treatment which should be meted out to anyone. Let those

“patients be supervised in their own homes, but the supervision
 “must be frequent; let some of the money now spent with doubt-
 “ful results on sanatoria be spent on the home life of the patient,
 “and I am confident that in a generation much more will be done
 “to stamp out tubercle than sanatoria, with all their usefulness,
 “will or can do.

“Yet what is the use of thinking or talking of the stamping
 “out of tubercle, when one of the chief sources of tubercle, that is
 “tubercular infected milk, is allowed to be sold broadcast daily
 “without any real attempt being made to eradicate tubercle in the
 “animals producing the milk.”

Measles caused a very heavy mortality, and Dr. Taylor says:
 “To control Measles and save life, to notification must be added
 “isolation in hospital of the worst cases, either by their surround-
 “ings or virulence, and in other cases daily visitation by Health
 “Visitors. That means a huge number of visitors during an epi-
 “demic. Nor do I think this will lessen the number of cases of
 “Measles, but such control might, if anything would, decrease the
 “number of deaths, for inefficient nursing is a potent cause of death
 “from Measles.”

The number of cases of Enteric Fever (8) was the lowest on record.

Diphtheria increased in prevalence, and the opinion is expressed that it is spread by mild unrecognised cases and by “carriers,” and probably school life is a factor in the dissemination of the disease, though the school buildings, Dr. Taylor firmly believes, were not the cause of the continued prevalence of Diphtheria in the district.

Scavenging was repeatedly neglected in the Ouston, Urpeth, and Birtley areas, and the penalty for neglect was imposed upon the contractors on several occasions.

Details of the sanitary improvements effected in the individual districts are given.

Houses unfit for habitation were closed in the townships of Haraton (5), Lamesley (3), Washington (5), Usworth (6), Pelton (25), and Edmondsley (1). It is stated in the report that "There are yet numerous dwelling houses unfit for habitation, though used as such, but the state of War now prevailing has prevented much from being done to improve such houses."

At the Isolation Hospital a number of cases of Measles occurring among soldiers were treated and all recovered.

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT.

ROBERT H. MEIKLE, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	10,000	10,914
Birth-rate	21.00	22.54
Death-rate (Crude)	15.40	14.02
Death-rate (Standardized)	14.08	12.74
Zymotic death-rate	0.60	0.73
Phthisis death-rate	0.60	0.73
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.20	1.55
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2.30	1.74
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	119	97

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	76	63
Smallpox	nil.	nil
Scarlet fever	21	23
Diphtheria	14	17
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	4	1
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	27	26
Measles	(2)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(1)	(6)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(2)	(nil.)

The District Council provides gratuitously anti-toxin serum to medical practitioners.

The opinion is expressed by the Medical Officer of Health that the adoption of the Notification of Births Act is responsible for a certain reduction in infantile mortality, and he says: "The visits of the Health Visitors are now more eagerly welcomed and not looked upon as an intrusion, and their advice is conscientiously put into practice. Enquiries I have personally made have elicited the information that their children thrive and do much better than others who have adopted some old person's advice, and it is gratifying to be able to report (after investigation) that of the 22 deaths occurring in your district, not one of them could be attributed to carelessness or neglect."

A nuisance was caused by the burning of refuse at the Darlington Corporation Tip at Snipe Lane, and up to the end of the year it had not been abated.

Troops were encamped on the Rifle Range at Neasham during the summer, and no disease was introduced into the district or was attributable to the soldiers. The camp was inspected by the Medical Officer of Health, and the suggestions made by him were acted upon.

Under the Housing Acts 70 houses were inspected and the report gives details of the improvements affected. No Closing Orders appear to have been made.

Mr. G. O. Brown was appointed Inspector of Nuisances in succession to Mr. Pallister, who became Sanitary Surveyor.

DURHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

A. T. HARRISON, L.S.A., Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Vital Statistics.</i>				<i>Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).</i>			
	1915.	1914.			1915.	1914.	
Estimated Population ..	32,528	32,147		Total notifications	371	685	
Birth-rate	27·36	31·88		Smallpox	nil.	nil.	
Death-rate (Crude)	14·78	16·39		Scarlet fever	222	533	
Death-rate (Standardized)	14·54	16·20		Diphtheria	50	51	
Zymotic death-rate	2·70	2·71		Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	7	17	
Phthisis death-rate	0·46	0·53		Puerperal fever	nil.	1	
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·76	0·93		Cases treated at hospital ..	90	241	
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2·73	2·88		Measles	(48)	(3)	
Infant mortality-rate per				Whooping cough	(5)	(10)	
1,000 births	130	165		Diarrhoea and Enteritis			
				(under 2 years).. ..	(21)	(46)	

Reference is made to the excellent work of the Health Visitors in preventing child mortality in infancy.

The Surveyor reports improvements in the sewage disposal at Ludworth, Coxhoe Pottery, Springwell, Sherburn and Quarrington Hill, and he also reports improvement in the water supplies of Quarrington Hill, Cassop and East Hetton Districts.

Extensions and improvements at the Isolation Hospital, Houghall, are reported.

The Inspector of Nuisances reports that nothing has been done to the houses in the Belmont Township on which Closing Orders have been made. At South Street, Sherburn, 14 houses

were closed; one has since been made habitable but the other 13 are stated to be in a dangerous condition. Nothing has been done during the year to improve the insanitary houses at Ludworth, as arranged by a Committee of the District Council, and the houses are stated to be in a most insanitary condition and injurious to health.

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT.

JAMES ARTHUR, L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	70,582	69,570
Birth-rate	31·60	35·36
Death-rate (Crude)	16·54	16·27
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	17·32	17·05
Zymotic death-rate	1·84	2·71
Phthisis death-rate	0·69	0·75
Total Tuberculosis death-rate ..	1·38	1·46
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	2·93	2·67
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	155	157

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	584	858
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	194	512
Diphtheria	56	87
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	14	33
Puerperal fever	3	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	87	100
Measles	(91)	(8)
Whooping cough	(13)	(37)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(75)	(103)

It is probable that the vital statistics based on the estimated population are too low, as the report states that the estimated population includes the men who have left to join the Forces, and the vital statistics take no account of deaths among these.

The infant mortality rate, though shewing a reduction as compared with previous years, was still very much above the County rate.

Measles was very fatal and 91 % of the deaths were those of children under 5 years.

The number of notified cases of Enteric Fever was the lowest ever recorded, and in no instance was any evidence obtainable as to the origin of any case by direct infection or otherwise.

Diarrhoea was very fatal, causing 90 deaths, and of these 90 % were of children under 5 and 72 % were those of infants under 1 year.

As regards Housing, it is stated that the scheme of the District Council to erect 100 houses at Shotton has, for the time being, been abandoned, at the request of the Local Government Board.

An appeal by the owner against Closing Orders made by the District Council in respect of 18 houses in Forster Street, South Hetton, was dismissed after a Local Government Board Enquiry, but owing to scarcity of labour improvements to these houses and others have been delayed.

Closing Orders in respect of 43 houses were made but in many cases have not been enforced owing to the War. 55 houses at South Hetton and Shotton were rebuilt, and 288 at Trimdon, Wheatley Hill, Murton and other parts are reported to have been improved.

Scavenging by contract was unsatisfactorily performed, particularly in the Wingate, Hesleden, Shotton and Seaham Districts, and a substantial sum was deducted from one contractor for neglect.

The question of providing destructors was considered by a special Committee but no definite action was taken.

The new Isolation Hospital was completed during the year and provides excellent accommodation.

Reference is made in the report to the good work performed by the County Health Visitor.

HARTLEPOOL RURAL DISTRICT.

T. G. AINSLEY, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	2,735	3,076
Birth-rate	21·20	22·43
Death-rate (Crude) ..	14·62	9·42
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14·06	9·96
Zymotic death-rate	1·09	0·65
Phthisis death-rate	0·73	0·65
Total Tuberculosis death-rate ..	1·09	0·65
Respiratory diseases death-rate	3·25	0·32
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	103	144

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	10	11
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	4	6
Diphtheria	nil.	1
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	3	2
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	3	6
Measles	(3)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(nil.)	(nil.)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(nil.)	(nil.)

An outbreak of Enteric Fever (4 cases) occurred at the Work-house in January, and the water was found to be contaminated.

Troops were billeted in different parts of the district during the year, and no case of infectious disease was reported amongst them.

Under the Housing Acts 135 inspections were made and 7 defective houses were made sanitary.

Temporary wooden bungalows, which were stated to be in every way sanitary, were built near the Zinc Works and were occupied by Belgian workmen.

HOUGHTON RURAL DISTRICT.

D. S. PARK, F.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	25,081	28,367
Birth-rate	33·73	33·98
Death-rate (Crude) ..	17·06	16·81
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	17·00	16·75
Zymotic death-rate ..	2·91	2·99
Phthisis death-rate ..	0·75	0·70
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·11	1·48
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	3·78	3·06
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births ..	151	157

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	292	511
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	85	366
Diphtheria	43	23
Fevers (Enteric, &c.) ..	8	22
Puerperal fever	1	1
Cases treated at hospital ..	26	75
Measles	(30)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(11)	(5)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(14)	(55)

Dr. Park, after services extending over 30 years, resigned the post of Medical Officer of Health on account of failing health, and Dr. Langenberg was appointed as his successor.

The origin of the case of Enteric Fever was not discovered, and water, milk or other food was not in any case suspected. The opinion was expressed in the report that flies were probably responsible for cases of epidemic diarrhoea and other diseases.

It is stated that the Health Visitor continues to do good work in supervising births and “She is judicious and tactful in the performance of her somewhat delicate duties, and is well received “by the people among whom she labours.”

As regards the deep well water supply in the Leamside district, it is stated that the necessary protective measures which were required have been satisfactorily completed. The report deals with the water supply from a spring to about 12 houses at East Rainton. Bacteriological examination proved it to be seriously contaminated, and though steps were taken to prevent contamination, they were not successful. Dr. Langenberg says "Under the circumstances I am of opinion that the water is not fit for drinking purposes, an opinion which is shared by the Medical Officer of Health for the County."

Under the Housing Acts 124 dwellings were inspected and 5 Closing Orders were made. 5 houses were made habitable after Closing Orders being made, and 32 houses were made habitable in respect of which no Closing Orders were made.

LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT.

T. BUCKHAM, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	30,630	34,116
Birth-rate	29.70	30.48
Death-rate (Crude)	14.23	14.24
Death-rate (Standardized)	14.75	14.75
Zymotic death-rate	2.64	3.25
Phthisis death-rate	0.81	0.47
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.09	0.88
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2.84	2.14
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	109	141

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths.)

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	471	569
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	188	288
Diphtheria	158	134
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	7	25
Puerperal fever	nil	nil
Cases treated at hospital ..	323	419
Measles	(35)	(1)
Whooping cough	(7)	(24)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(16)	(55)

Under the Housing Acts 4 houses were closed by Order, 12 were voluntarily closed, and 7 were made habitable. The whole of the houses in the Wagtail area of Craghead have now been demolished, and in West Lane, Allendale Cottages, nearly the whole of the houses have been damaged by colliery subsidences, and many of them are not reasonably fit for human habitation.

Owing to want of pressure at Burnhope, the water supply continued to be unsatisfactory.

The back streets at Hamsterley Colliery village are stated to be in a bad condition, but the owners have promised to repair them as soon as possible.

SEDFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

C. BASAN, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	32,398	35,968
Birth-rate	31.94	29.99
Death-rate (Crude)	14.47	12.45
Death-rate (Standardized)	15.24	13.11
Zymotic death-rate	2.03	1.90
Phthisis death-rate.. ..	0.80	0.64
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.32	1.22
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2.99	1.80
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	130	132

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	392	424
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	211	253
Diphtheria	71	48
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	9	24
Puerperal fever	1	4
Cases treated at hospital ..	180	190
Measles	(33)	(3)
Whooping cough	(2)	(18)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(16)	(31)

The report states that the advice of the Health Visitor is frequently ignored, and on the question of infantile mortality it is stated “By no such organization as that of Lady Health Visitor alone will the fringe of this great question be touched; a much more elaborate and ambitious scheme is required, and as a minor adjunct of it highly trained intelligent Health Visitors might be usefully employed, but under the system at present prevailing in your district, it is impossible for Health Visitors alone to accomplish anything more than mere chance results.”

Diphtheria was seriously prevalent, and at Ferryhill Township it was found that three unsuspected cases had been attending school.

There was a marked reduction in the number of cases of Enteric Fever notified, and several of these were found not to be suffering from the disease. Three of the cases were found among the staff and patients of the County Asylum, and one case was caused by the eating of infected mussels.

The segregation of incurable and infective cases of Tuberculosis is urged. It is stated that the after-care of patients discharged from sanatoria also leaves much to be desired.

Under the Housing Acts 141 houses were inspected. Closing Orders were made in respect of 12 houses, two of which were subsequently made habitable, whilst in 55 cases defects in dwelling houses were remedied without the making of Closing Orders.

The necessity of making up the streets at East Howle, Ferryhill district, the Brooms, and West Cornforth is urged.

As regards the Trimdons and West Cornforth, the following quotation from the report indicates a most unsatisfactory state of affairs:—

“It would have been a pleasing duty to report more progress in the Trimdons, but arrears of work, promises unfulfilled, an apparent unwillingness on the part of the colliery owners to work expeditiously and in amicable agreement with your Council mar the retrospect of yet another year. Whilst sufficient reasons may exist at present for not pushing forward, something in the near future must be done to improve the sanitary conditions of the property in this district.

“Abolition of the ashpit-privies, provision of separate yards wherever possible, a speeding-up of the reconstruction of the houses at Trimdon Colliery, the addition of cement concrete pavements and the making up of streets both at the Grange and the Colliery are works of the first importance which must be grappled with at the earliest opportunity.

“The private streets at West Cornforth are also in a deplorable condition, to use a colloquial expression, they are bottomless in wet weather and a shifting mass of black germ-laden dust when the climatic conditions are reversed. Further improvements are also sadly needed in this district, and the abolition of ashpit-privies and provision of water-closets, abolition of the back-to-back dwelling houses rank amongst the more important ones. In Church Street, Coxhoe, the provision of the water carriage system is urgently needed, as the scavenging carts have not proper access to these premises.”

The scavenging of the district appears to have been neglected to a serious extent by some of the contractors.

Reference is made to the unsatisfactory state of the water supply of the Trimdons, and it is stated that “Unless an adequate and satisfactory supply can be maintained, it will be incumbent on your Council to seek a fresh source of supply and to settle this vexed question for all time.”

SOUTH SHIELDS RURAL DISTRICT.

W. ARMSTRONG, L.R.C. P., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	15,456	16,169
Birth-rate	25.75	28.88
Death-rate (Crude)	12.35	11.50
Death-rate (Standardized)	12.67	11.80
Zymotic death-rate	1.09	1.42
Phthisis death-rate	0.64	0.49
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1.09	1.17
Respiratory diseases death-rate	2.00	1.93
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	120	128

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	100	177
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	52	92
Diphtheria	10	13
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	6	13
Puerperal fever	1	2
Cases treated at hospital ..	41	69
Measles	(2)	(nil.)
Whooping cough	(3)	(2)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(10)	(19)

Satisfactory progress was made with the main sewerage of the district, and there were much improved conditions in the Boldon district.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining men and to the enormous increase of work thrown on to the Council through the large number of troops coming into the district, the scavenging was not well performed.

Owing to the war nothing has yet been done to put the streets mentioned in my last annual report in a sanitary condition.

It is stated there is still a demand for houses for the working classes in the district.

A very large number of soldiers—about 12,000—were billeted in the district during the year and the District Council supervised the scavenging. A large number of articles were disinfected by steam at the request of the Army Authorities.

The appointment of a second sanitary inspector is recommended.

STOCKTON RURAL DISTRICT.

J. W. BLANDFORD, L.R.C.P., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915	1914.
Estimated Population ..	11,091	11,673
Birth-rate	23·35	24·25
Death-rate (Crude)	12·44	13·02
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	12·55	13·13
Zymotic death-rate	1·89	2·23
Phthisis death-rate	0·99	0·51
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	1·26	0·63
Respiratory diseases death-rate	1·98	1·37
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	81	120

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	96	105
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	27	49
Diphtheria	41	23
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	5	9
Puerperal fever	nil	1
Cases treated at hospital ..	42	23
Measles	(6)	(1)
Whooping cough	(nil)	(7)
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(4)	(9)

During the year the District Council appointed a nurse to visit Measles cases and others suffering from infectious disease, and also to look after child welfare.

Several large schemes of drainage have been postponed until after the War, but it is stated that the postponement will in no way affect the health of the district.

Building was practically at a standstill except at Haverton Hill, where a few houses were erected to replace those condemned at Port Clarence.

The scavenging of the district is stated to be generally satisfactory except at Billingham village, where there was a difficulty in obtaining suitable men.

Under the Housing Acts, 172 dwellings were inspected, but though no Closing Orders were made, notices were served in numerous instances in respect of defects. At Newton Bewley some houses are to be rebuilt as soon as conditions are normal again.

SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

ROBERT STOBO, M.B., B.Hy., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	32,382	31,487
Birth-rate	25·72	31·06
Death-rate (Crude) ..	14·63	13·70
Death-rate (Standardized) ..	14·95	14·00
Zymotic death-rate ..	2·71	2·47
Phthisis death-rate ..	1·01	0·75
Total Tuberculosis death-rate ..	1·51	0·98
Respiratory diseases death-rate ..	0·83	2·03
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	146	142

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	274	688
Smallpox	nil	nil
Scarlet fever	89	457
Diphtheria	60	81
Fevers (Enteric, &c.) ..	10	26
Puerperal fever	nil	1
Cases treated at hospital ..	116	283
Measles	(7)	(nil)
Whooping cough	(6)	(12)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(25)	(39)

The figures for 1915 given above are taken from the County Medical Officers' returns.

Based on the Registrar-General's estimate of civil population, the total death-rate was 17·4, but if the population had been under normal conditions, the rate would have been 14·6.

As regards the precautions against Measles, it was arranged that the early cases of an epidemic should be personally supervised by the Medical Officer of Health, who was given permission, should the number of cases increase, to send a nurse or nurses to parishes affected where they would carry out the instructions of the patient's medical attendant but, under no circumstances would she be allowed to attend any other but Measles cases.

The number of cases of Enteric Fever notified was the lowest on record. There seems to have been no direct infection from one case to another, and there was considerable difficulty in ascertaining the source of infection. Two of the cases were possibly due to the laying of sewers in close proximity to their homes, one was supposed to be due to infected food, and one was supposed to have been imported from another town.

Since the introduction of compulsory notification, the Tuberculosis death-rate has increased considerably. It is pointed out that it is more important from a public health standpoint to isolate the advanced Tuberculosis cases than to treat the early cases in sanatoria.

One case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever was notified, the patient being a soldier home on leave.

Two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified from the Parish of Ryhope.

Provision was made at the Isolation Hospital for treating soldiers encamped in the district, and 24 military cases were received during 1915. Arrangements were made by which Enteric Fever cases were sent to the Sunderland County Borough Hospital, whilst Diphtheria cases from the Borough were treated at the Rural District Hospital. At the Tuberculosis Hospital (12 beds) erected in the grounds of the Isolation Hospital, 45 patients were treated and they were all happy and contented in their treatment. It is stated that in 13 cases the disease was arrested, 16 left much improved, 4 improved, and in one case there was no improvement, whilst 3 were worse on discharge; 8 were still in hospital at the end of the year.

The scavenging is stated to have been well performed, and wherever possible the water-carriage system is being substituted for the dry system, and 29 privy-ashpits and 2 ash-closets were converted into water-closets.

Under the Housing Acts 80 inspections were made of dwellings and in 13 cases Representations were made to the Local Authority that the houses were unfit for habitation. Six Closing Orders were made and in 3 cases defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders.

WEARDALE RURAL DISTRICT.

JAMES BANNERMAN, M.B., Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

	1915.	1914.
Estimated Population ..	8,922	9,651
Birth-rate	19·83	18·55
Death-rate (Crude)	13·67	14·50
Death-rate (Standardized)	13·11	13·91
Zymotic death-rate	0·44	0·31
Phthisis death-rate	0·44	0·93
Total Tuberculosis death-rate	0·56	0·93
Respiratory diseases death-rate	1·90	2·28
Infant mortality-rate per 1,000 births	50	95

Infectious Diseases—Cases and (Deaths).

	1915.	1914.
Total notifications	136	90
Smallpox	nil.	nil.
Scarlet fever	73	58
Diphtheria	32	14
Fevers (Enteric, &c.)	nil.	nil.
Puerperal fever	nil.	nil.
Cases treated at hospital ..	73	42
Measles	(1)	(1)
Whooping cough	(1)	(nil.)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	(nil.)	(nil.)

Under the Housing Acts 150 dwellings were inspected and no Closing Orders were made. The report contains details of sanitary improvements effected to individual houses or groups of houses.

A case of Anthrax in a cow occurred in Wolsingham and the carcase was cremated and the necessary disinfection performed.

It was reported that many of the inhabitants of Cowhill, Wearhead, Ireshopeburn, St. John's Chapel, Daddryshield and Westgate throw their refuse into the streams, and that the Council have erected notices under the 47th section of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, in these villages as well as in Wolsingham, Boltsburn and Frosterley.

The report recommends that an isolation hospital for Enteric Fever and Smallpox should be provided.

PORT SANITARY DISTRICTS.

HARTLEPOOL PORT.

ARNOLD S. L. BIGGART, M.B., Ch.B.,
Medical Officer of Health.

During the year 95 patients were admitted to the Hospital of the Port Sanitary Authority. Of these all but 2 were patients from the County Borough of West Hartlepool and the Borough of Hartlepool, the 2 cases being patients from vessels arriving in the Port. The Hospital, therefore, serves the purpose of an Isolation Hospital for the two Boroughs and in addition admits an occasional case of infectious disease from vessels arriving in the Port.

Of the 95 cases, 68 were Scarlet Fever, 19 Diphtheria, 17 Typhoid and 1 Dysentery. In addition to the 2 cases of infectious disease mentioned above, who were admitted to the Hospital of the Port Sanitary Authority, 5 persons suffering from illness were removed from vessels arriving in the Port, to the Hartlepool Hospital.

The Medical Officer expresses the opinion that the Isolation Hospital suffices to meet the requirements of the district but suggests that there should be additional accommodation for the housing of the nursing staff in the portion of the Hospital set apart for the treatment of Smallpox patients.

The number of vessels inspected during the year was 1,287 and of those 33 were visited by the Medical Officer on account of sickness on board, 4 for having unsound food as cargo and one on account of the vessel having arrived from a Cholera infected port.

Special attention was given to the drinking water on the vessels and in several instances where it was found to have been taken from rivers, their water tanks were emptied and cleansed and replenished with fresh water.

Large quantities of food were landed from boats detained by the Naval Authorities and under the Unsound Food Regulations, 21 barrels of pickled beef and other food stuffs were condemned and destroyed.

RIVER TYNE PORT.

WM. EDMUND HARKER, M.D., B.S., D.Hy.,
Medical Officer of Health.

The number of patients admitted to the floating hospital of the Tyne Port Sanitary Authority during the year was 43 and of these 10 were either suffering from, or suspected to be suffering from, Enteric Fever. There were also 10 cases of Measles. 7 of Diarrhoea, 2 of Diphtheria and 2 of Dysentery, but no cases of Smallpox.

In the Report of the Medical Officer of Health is given an account of his inspection of 200 vessels visited by him on account of reported or suspected sickness on board. The Officers of the Port Sanitary Authority also boarded 460 vessels arriving from foreign ports infected or suspected to be infected with Cholera, Yellow Fever, Plague or Smallpox. Of these 47 came direct to the Tyne, the remainder indirectly. 2 vessels had Smallpox on the voyage; 1 case of Scarlet Fever on arrival; 19 had cases of Typhoid on the voyage and 11 on arrival; 7 had 7 cases of Diphtheria on the voyage and 3 on arrival; 12 vessels had 21 cases of Malaria on the voyage and 5 on arrival; 4 had 21 cases of Beri-Beri on the voyage and 1 on arrival; 12 had 14 cases of Measles on arrival; 10 had 5 cases of Diphtheria on the voyage and 11 on arrival; whilst 16 had 10 cases of Diarrhoea on the voyage and 10 on arrival.

EMIGRANTS.

The emigrant vessels coming into the Tyne were inspected by the Port Sanitary Authority. 749 emigrants en route to America were passed through the Port and the ports of their re-embarkation were notified.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

The number of vessels arriving at the Port was 11,494; of these 10,012 were inspected. Of the 10,012, 5,401 were of British nationality whilst all but 413 were either Norwegian (2,226), Danish (996), Swedish (565), or Dutch (410).

In 477 vessels structural defects were found and remedied, and in 539 instances notices were served to cleanse the peaks, forecastles, water closets and bilges of vessels which were found in a dirty condition.

The regulations under the Food Act, 1908, were also enforced and cargoes of vessels arriving in the Tyne and the Albert Edward Docks and at the Dunston Co-operative Flour Mills were inspected.

The Water Boats and the water supply to ships in port were also given attention and more particularly those arriving from ports infected or suspected to be infected with Cholera.

TABLE A.

TABLE GIVING POPULATION, BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, &C., WITHIN THE URBAN DISTRICTS OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

URBAN DISTRICTS.	Medical Officer of Health.	Area in Acres.	Population 1915 (Estimated).	Births.	Deaths.	Birth-rate.	Death- rate.	Zymotic death- rate.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Births.	Phthisis death- rate.	Total Tubercu- losis death- rate.	Lung Diseases death- rate.	Number of Cases Notified.	Hospital accommo- dation?	Number of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.	Percent- age of Notified cases re- moved to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths occurring within District, excluded.	Deaths occurring outside District, included.
BOROUGHES.																		
Durham	A. M. Vann, M.R.C.S.	1066	17550	367	347	20·91	19·77	2·50	168	1·13	1·36	3·93	94	Yes.	31	52·5	82	20
Hartlepool.....	George Jubb, M.D., D.P.H..	735	18819	546	373	29·01	19·82	1·75	93	1·43	1·86	3·40	163	Yes.	35	44·8	30	61
*Jarrow.....	J. M. Nicoll, M.B.	783	33466	1036	764	30·95	22·82	3·64	150	2·06	2·09	5·46	445	Yes.	...	...	11	103
Stockton	Thomas Horne, M.D.	5465	57882	1672	1065	28·88	18·39	2·40	127	1·15	1·81	3·52	564	Yes.	306	87·3	28	48
URBAN DISTRICTS.																		
Annfield Plain	W. M. Morison, L.R.O.P. ...	3489	18000	463	273	25·72	15·17	1·88	137	1·38	2·05	2·94	187	Yes.	50	64·9	...	31
Barnard Castle	C. H. Welford, M.D.....	560	4206	87	93	20·68	22·11	1·66	80	0·23	1·42	4·75	145	Yes.	21	22·5	9	5
Benfieldside	Wm. Allen, M.D.	1525	7560	219	135	28·96	17·82	2·91	114	1·05	1·85	3·57	280	Yes.	169	68·1	62	9
Bishop Auckland ...	T. A. McCullagh, M.R.C.S....	691	14687	317	249	21·57	16·95	2·45	157	0·95	1·36	3·26	86	Yes.	21	33·8	56	11
*Blyth.....	H. Morrison, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.	9314	36327	1030	490	28·35	13·48	1·92	134	0·49	0·90	2·91	327	Yes.	...	...	9	39
Brandon and Byshottles	Henry Smith, M.D.....	6669	18935	581	326	30·83	17·32	3·85	125	0·63	0·78	3·38	107	Yes.	52	67·5	5	19
Chester-le-Street ...	D. Duncan, M.B.	2511	14091	389	228	27·60	16·18	3·54	126	0·78	1·13	2·69	120	Yes.	65	58·5	65	12
Consett	A. D. M. Macintyre, M.B....	1005	11733	288	211	24·54	17·98	2·81	118	0·93	1·35	3·66	224	Yes.	161	80·5	...	30
Crook	A. Mackay, M.D.	4056	12000	362	200	30·16	16·66	4·41	129	0·83	1·16	2·58	194	Yes.	118	70·2	...	11
Felling	Wm. E. Peacock, M.D., B.Hy.	2684	25910	755	487	29·13	18·75	2·31	123	2·31	1·38	1·81	246	Yes.	111	76·0	...	69
Hebburn	E. E. Norman, M.B., B.S.....	1241	23580	749	375	31·76	15·90	2·12	109	1·31	1·90	3·47	283	Yes.	125	78·6	18	41
Hetton-le-Hole ...	J. Adamson, M.D.	1617	16300	564	286	34·60	17·55	2·20	152	1·10	2·02	2·82	328	Yes.	47	41·2	...	20
Houghton-le-Spring.	D. S. Park, F.R.C.S.....	1551	10619	289	181	27·21	17·04	1·78	148	0·94	1·31	4·23	123	Yes.	27	32·9	11	5
Leadgate	Wm. Allen, M.D.	1836	4791	146	88	30·47	18·55	2·08	164	0·83	1·25	2·50	90	Yes.	60	66·6	...	5
Ryton	James W. Smith, M.D.....	5169	13256	419	176	31·60	13·27	2·64	97	0·52	1·05	1·50	162	Yes.	65	45·4	8	18
Seaham Harbour ...	Luke G. Dillon, M.D.....	1101	18700	555	308	29·67	16·47	2·56	162	1·06	1·44	4·06	73	Yes.	6	16·6	...	28
Shildon	L. C. Nash, L.R.C.S.	1066	12974	388	237	29·89	18·26	1·77	141	0·84	1·46	3·31	108	Yes.	61	87·1	1	12
Southwick-on-Wear.	John J. Carruthers, M.B. ...	856	13634	433	262	31·76	19·43	1·83	150	0·95	1·61	3·66	100	Yes.	42	71·1	...	50
Spennymoor	W. Munsellwhite, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.	3388	16785	557	312	33·12	18·58	2·50	122	1·19	1·54	3·69	230	Yes.	107	79·7	...	30
Stanhope	John Gray, M.B.	216	1792	43	29	23·99	16·12	nil.	93	0·65	0·55	1·11	24	Yes.	18	78·2	5	1
Stanley	E. G. D. Benson, L.R.C.P., D.P.H.....	3593	28000	798	387	28·50	13·82	2·60	130	0·46	1·09	3·10	330	Yes.	206	97·1	1	36
Tanfield	E. G. D. Benson, L.R.C.P., D.P.H.....	4779	10935	272	142	24·87	12·98	0·73	132	0·73	1·37	2·01	143	Yes.	69	73·4	24	14
*Tow Law.....	J. H. Naismith, M.D.	477	4304	99	64	23·00	14·86	0·92	141	0·23	0·46	2·78	81	Yes.	...	...	9	...
Whickham.....	Andrew Smith, M.D.	5914	18898	533	265	28·20	14·02	2·06	125	0·79	1·48	2·27	164	Yes.	73	59·2	2	46
Willington	R. E. Brown, L.R.C.P.	3793	8796	245	135	27·85	15·34	2·16	97	0·54	0·68	2·16	25	Yes.	21	84·0	...	9

*No report received; the above figures are taken from C.M.O.'s records

TABLE A1.

TABLE GIVING THE DEATHS AT CERTAIN AGES AND FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED CAUSES WITHIN THE URBAN DISTRICTS OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

URBAN DISTRICTS.	DEATHS AT SUBJOINED AGES.									DEATHS FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES.																													
	At all ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Enteric Fever.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Influenza.	Erysipelas.	Phtisis Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Tuberculous Meningitis.	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	Cancer, Malignant Disease.	Rheumatic Fever.	Meningitis.	Organic Heart Disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia (all forms).	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	Diphtheria and Enteritis.	Appendicitis and Typhilitis.	Girrhosis of Liver.	Alcoholism.	Nephritis and Bright's Disease.	Puerperal Fever.	Other accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Pre-natal Birth.	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide.	Suicide.	Other defined Diseases.	Diseases ill-defined or unknown.
Durham	347	63	28	10	20	12	37	78	99	1	...	21	1	7	2	2	...	20	2	2	17	...	1	36	40	29	1	14	1	4	2	4	1	1	16	7	3	94	18
Hartlepool	376	51	30	25	21	16	53	91	89	2	...	13	2	7	3	1	2	27	1	7	28	2	3	39	32	32	...	8	1	...	...	18	...	2	20	21	5	99	1
Jarrow.....	764	156	90	56	44	36	99	123	160	1	...	64	1	14	8	4	1	69	5	16	27	1	11	51	67	115	5	39	3	1	...	10	...	1	38	23	3	177	9
Stockton	1065	214	80	76	53	48	114	230	251	...	...	62	6	11	17	7	...	67	12	26	60	5	8	81	106	98	9	44	4	12	1	20	3	5	81	34	4	270	12
Annfield Plain	273	63	29	16	15	13	32	38	67	1	...	24	1	...	1	2	1	25	4	8	12	3	..	20	27	29	2	9	1	3	...	11	...	3	25	5	2	27	27
Barnard Castle	93	7	4	4	5	3	6	23	41	...	...	2	...	1	3	2	...	1	3	2	12	...	...	13	16	4	2	1	...	1	...	8	...	...	2	1	3	15	1
Benfieldside	135	25	12	10	18	5	15	17	33	1	...	2	3	1	12	...	...	8	5	1	7	1	2	19	5	22	...	6	1	...	...	2	...	2	10	3	1	21	...
Bishop Auckland	249	50	22	16	6	4	30	53	68	1	..	12	1	7	...	4	...	14	4	2	17	...	2	13	36	11	...	18	...	5	...	9	...	1	15	3	...	37	37
*Blaydon.....	490	139	69	48	34	24	42	67	67	2	...	35	2	3	12	3	1	18	4	11	10	2	12	28	24	82	3	20	4	2	...	15	1	5	46	14	...	127	4
Brandon & Byshotles	326	73	38	39	13	15	33	50	65	1	...	58	2	5	5	3	...	12	2	1	15	1	1	29	16	48	4	5	2	...	...	6	1	...	39	15	2	44	9
Chester-le-Street	228	49	29	22	11	6	18	42	51	2	...	31	...	6	4	...	1	12	2	3	11	...	...	18	19	19	2	12	1	1	...	4	...	2	21	5	2	42	8
Consett	211	34	16	14	26	10	30	38	43	...	...	3	3	3	20	...	...	11	3	2	7	4	...	19	16	27	...	4	1	1	...	16	...	3	19	7	1	41	...
Crook	200	47	25	12	13	5	8	34	56	1	...	19	8	5	5	1	1	10	1	3	11	1	...	18	16	15	1	21	...	2	...	7	...	2	15	6	4	27	...
Felling	418	93	51	24	24	25	41	77	83	1	...	23	3	...	...	4	...	36	3	8	26	2	16	24	38	45	3	43	1	...	1	12	...	3	42	10	..	49	25
Hebburn	376	83	26	27	22	24	41	80	73	1	...	21	3	1	2	2	3	31	6	8	15	4	1	36	31	51	3	31	...	...	...	10	...	...	33	15	3	65	...
Hetton-le-Hole	286	86	38	12	11	10	31	37	61	1	...	11	1	10	2	2	2	18	7	8	13	...	8	24	22	25	2	11	...	...	...	5	...	3	38	10	...	60	3
Houghton-le-Spring	181	43	16	20	11	6	16	30	39	1	...	8	1	...	3	...	1	10	...	4	12	3	...	15	18	27	1	9	1	3	1	10	...	...	13	9	...	31	...
Leadgate	83	24	3	2	5	4	7	17	21	...	...	2	...	...	1	2	...	4	2	...	4	...	3	14	6	6	...	7	1	...	..	3	...	...	6	4	...	18	..
Ryton	176	37	11	16	11	8	10	40	43	2	...	25	...	2	4	...	...	7	5	2	12	...	..	17	6	14	...	2	1	3	...	3	...	1	18	6	2	29	16
Seaham Harbour	308	90	42	21	16	10	29	52	48	...	...	17	1	4	4	...	1	20	5	3	13	...	...	29	23	53	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	9	...	61	...
Shildon	237	55	24	8	9	8	26	40	67	...	...	17	...	3	2	7	1	11	4	4	14	...	...	9	33	10	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	2	25	6	1	82	2
Southwick-on-Wear	262	65	30	25	13	6	21	51	51	...	...	7	..	...	3	2	1	13	3	6	9	...	7	13	14	36	1	19	...	..	1	8	...	2	25	6	1	85	...
Spennymoor	312	68	28	27	21	18	28	48	74	...	..	15	...	4	5	2	...	20	...	6	15	2	7	24	31	31	...	23	...	2	...	13	1	5	20	11	...	52	23
Stanhope	29	4	...	...	...	1	2	7	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	1	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	10	...
Stanley	387	104	60	43	21	11	32	61	55	...	...	36	6	8	7	2	...	13	5	10	17	1	10	21	32	55	9	20	1	2	1	8	...	4	31	10	4	50	24
Tanfield	152	36	8	8	6	7	17	33	37	...	...	3	2	...	2	...	...	8	3	4	9	1	3	20	7	15	4	1	...	1	1	5	...	...	6	7	...	22	28
Tow Law	64	14	...	2	3	1	4	21	19	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	4	...	...	4	7	5	...	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	5	1	1	26	...
Whickham	267	68	13	22	12	12	34	32	74	1	...	21	1	10	2	1	...	16	6	7	18	1	...	16	18	25	3	4	...	...	...	8	...	3	31	9	2	33	31
Willington	135	24	10	12	9	9	9	24	38	1	...	11	...	4	...	3	..	5	...	1	6	1	4	5	13	6	6	6	...	3	...	5	...	2	13	6	...	32	2
TOTAL.....	8430	1865	832	616	473	357	865	1534	1888	22	...	563	49	116	130	56	16	508	97	156	427	35	100	658	721	935	62	409	25	47	8	222	7	52	696	263	44	1726	280

The difference between the total deaths in some districts in this Table and the figures given in Table A. is due to the incompleteness of the statistics in the Annual Reports of the district Medical Officers of Health. In a few instances the deaths and ages of residents who died outside the District were not included as they should be in L.G.B. Table III.

*No report received; the above figures are taken from C.M.O.'s records.



TABLE B.

TABLE GIVING POPULATION, BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, &C., WITHIN THE RURAL DISTRICTS OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	Medical Officer of Health.	Area in Acres.	Population 1915 (Estimated).	Births.	Deaths.	Birth-rate	Death- rate.	Zymotic death- rate.	Infant Mortality- rate per 1000 Births.	Phthisis death- rate.	Total Tubercu- losis death- rate.	Lung Diseases death- rate.	Number of Cases Notified.	Hospital accommo- dation?	Number of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.	Percent- age of Notified Cases re- moved to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths occurring within District, excluded.	Deaths occurring outside District, included.
Auckland	T. C. Penfold, M.B., D.P.H.	57334	67644	1733	965	25.61	14.26	2.42	135	0.62	1.00	2.66	661	Yes.	351	64.5	23	64
Barnard Castle	James C. Neffigan, L.R.C.S.	79961	11378	272	198	23.90	17.40	0.52	113	0.43	0.61	2.28	85	Yes.	43	54.4	...	11
Chester-le-Street ..	J. Taylor, M.D., D.P.H.	32109	67194	2047	1074	30.46	15.98	3.24	136	1.14	1.77	2.56	851	Yes.	346	51.7	29	98
Darlington	Robert H. Meikle, M.B.	42019	10000	210	154	21.00	15.40	0.60	119	0.60	1.20	2.30	76	Yes.	27	51.9	1	21
Durham	A. T. Harrison, L.S.A.	30871	32528	890	481	27.36	14.78	2.70	130	0.46	0.76	2.73	371	Yes.	90	30.5	24	39
Easington	J. Arthur, L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	37018	70582	2231	1168	31.60	16.54	1.84	155	0.69	1.38	2.93	584	Yes.	87	26.0	26	62
Hartlepool.....	T. G. Ainsley, M.D.	19090	2735	58	40	21.20	14.62	1.09	103	0.73	1.09	3.25	10	Yes.	3	42.8	178	2
Houghton	D. S. Park, F.R.C.S.	13192	25081	846	428	33.73	17.06	2.91	151	0.75	1.11	3.78	292	Yes.	26	15.5	5	34
Lanchester.....	T. Buckham, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.....	51151	30630	910	436	29.70	14.23	2.64	109	0.81	1.09	2.84	471	Yes.	323	84.3	57	25
Sedgefield.....	C. Basan, M.D.	45006	32398	1035	479	31.94	14.47	2.03	130	0.80	1.32	2.99	392	Yes.	180	59.4	235	18
South Shields	W. Armstrong, L.R.C.P.	12073	15456	398	191	25.75	12.35	1.09	120	0.64	1.09	2.00	100	Yes.	41	61.1	343	6
Stockton	J. W. Blandford, L.R.C.P. ...	32013	11091	259	138	23.35	12.44	1.89	81	0.99	1.26	1.98	96	Yes.	42	53.1	7	17
Sunderland	Robert Stobo, M.B., B.Hy...	6980	32382	833	474	25.72	14.63	2.71	146	1.01	1.51	0.83	274	Yes.	116	62.7	61	65
Weardale	James Bannerman, M.B.	97753	8922	177	122	19.83	13.67	0.44	50	0.44	0.56	1.90	136	Yes.	73	64.0	11	4

TABLE B1

TABLE GIVING THE DEATHS AT CERTAIN AGES AND FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED CAUSES WITHIN THE RURAL DISTRICTS OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

RURAL DISTRICTS.	DEATHS AT SUBJOINED AGES.									DEATHS FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES																													
	At all ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Enteric Fever.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria and Croup.	Influenza.	Erysipelas.	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis).	Tuberculosis Meningitis.	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	Cancer, Malignant Disease.	Rheumatic Fever.	Meningitis.	Organic Heart Disease.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia (all forms).	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Alcoholism.	Nephritis and Bright's disease.	Puerperal Fever.	Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Puerperium.	Congenital Deformity and Malformations, including Premature Birth.	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide.	Suicide.	Other defined Diseases.	Diseases ill-defined or unknown.
Auckland	924	238	79	77	77	48	69	134	202	10	...	69	21	6	17	7	1	42	9	17	31	6	8	69	89	91	14	54	1	6	...	15	4	5	72	20	3	237	...
Barnard Castle ...	198	31	7	8	7	10	21	47	67	...	...	1	1	3	1	8	...	5	1	1	14	...	3	23	20	6	6	...	1	3	...	5	2	1	18	6	...	33	36
Chester-le Street ...	1104	280	113	115	67	56	90	175	208	1	...	110	10	30	31	6	...	77	13	29	46	7	15	97	61	111	9	42	2	4	1	22	3	7	121	31	7	170	41
Darlington	134	22	6	2	6	5	19	22	52	1	...	2	...	1	...	6	...	6	...	6	9	...	1	22	11	12	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	1	7	7	1	30	6
Durham	451	116	56	42	25	24	39	78	101	3	...	48	4	5	7	2	1	15	3	7	21	1	...	47	41	48	5	27	4	2	...	12	...	3	47	22	2	104	...
Easington.....	1168	346	136	91	72	50	108	172	193	3	...	91	8	13	15	2	3	49	9	40	44	3	24	44	80	127	17	90	5	5	1	37	1	9	115	56	5	148	124
Hartlepool	40	6	2	1	6	2	4	6	13	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	3	4	5	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	4	2	...	3	8
Houghton	428	128	48	33	23	15	45	54	82	4	...	30	2	11	12	2	...	19	2	7	20	2	2	34	39	56	1	20	2	6	...	7	1	9	44	18	2	54	22
Lanchester	436	100	45	27	27	22	42	69	104	...	...	35	7	7	16	3	2	25	3	5	19	4	9	35	30	57	5	19	...	2	...	11	...	3	32	10	...	61	36
Sedgefield	461	135	41	44	19	24	49	75	74	...	...	33	2	2	13	4	...	26	6	11	10	1	...	...	33	64	2	19	3	3	1	7	...	5	40	27	3	113	33
South Shields	191	48	13	7	8	15	18	37	45	...	...	2	...	3	2	1	...	10	2	5	16	2	10	18	13	18	1	12	...	...	...	2	...	2	12	3	1	56	...
Stockton	138	21	10	10	12	6	18	29	32	2	...	6	...	...	9	3	...	11	1	2	6	...	2	9	7	15	...	5	...	...	...	4	...	2	12	8	...	33	1
Sunderland	468	123	33	38	34	24	46	75	95	4	...	37	3	9	12	1	1	37	5	10	16	2	6	36	40	37	3	25	2	...	1	8	...	1	42	15	1	113	1
Weardale	122	9	2	3	5	5	13	33	52	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	...	4	1	...	9	2	1	18	9	8	1	...	...	...	...	6	...	2	6	5	1	30	14
TOTAL.....	6293	1603	591	498	398	306	581	1006	1320	28	...	468	60	91	135	46	8	328	55	141	262	30	81	455	477	655	64	316	21	31	5	140	11	50	572	230	26	1185	322



TABLE C.

INSPECTORS' REPORT—URBAN.

URBAN DISTRICTS.		PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS—NOTICES SERVED AND NUISANCES ABATED.																				WATER, FOOD, AND DRUGS.				PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
		DWELLING-HOUSES AND SCHOOLS.		Lodging-houses.	Dairies and Milk-shops.	Cowsheds.	Bakery-houses.	Slaughter-houses.	Aldities and Piggeries.	Deposits of Refuse and Manure.	Water-closets.	Defective Yards and Paving.	HOUSE DRAINAGE.			Water Supply.	Pestiferous Animals.	Improperly Kept Offensive Trades.	Smoke Nuisances.	Other Nuisances.	TOTALS.	Samples of Water taken for Analysis.	Samples of Water examined for use.	Unwholesome Food.	Convictions for Expanding or Selling Unwholesome Food.	Lots of Infected Clothing Stowed or Destroyed.	Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease.	Schools Disinfected after Infectious Disease.	Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things.	Convictions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
Formal Notices by Order of Authority.	Nuisances abated after Notice.	Defective Traps.	No Disinfection.										Other Faults.	DURHAM—	Population, 17,550																64	243	11	56	2	14	3	42	36	26	434	11	3	55	154	6	10	1	1	635	1807											Inspector of Nuisances—	Robert Blythe	1	18	3	1	2	9	...	6	4	1	5	4	...	6	10	1	1	8	62										HARTLEPOOL—	Population, 21,130	64	241	11	56	2	14	3	41	36	26	434	10	3	55	154	6	10	1	1	630	1798											Inspector of Nuisances—	J. Charlton	37	99	8	18	...	7	2	10	...	15	82	15	15	1	60	27	...	5	...	26	433											JARROW—	Population, 36,500	50	545	6	18	4	4	28	54	...	84	11	216	3	...	140	31	...	21	...	9	1383	2607										Inspector of Nuisances—	John S. Callis	50	545	6	18	4	4	28	54	...	84	11	216	3	...	140	31	...	21	...	9	1383	2607										STOCKTON—	Population, 59,311											Inspector of Nuisances—	Wm. C. Crowther	18	486	23	4	1	18	...	50	29	15	3	...	84	4	...	7	5	...	272	...										ANNFIELD PLAIN—	Population, 17,700	10	10	7	3	1	8	...	3	10	23	12	4	12	...	20	...	1	5	...	28	157											Inspector of Nuisances—	S. L. Hetherington	10	10	7	3	1	8	...	3	10	23	12	4	12	...	20	...	1	5	...	28	157											BARNARD CASTLE—	Population, 4,872											Inspector of Nuisances—	H. E. Raine	2	41	3	13	3	5	...	1	11	12	...										BENFIELD—	Population, 8,500											Inspector of Nuisances—	Thomas Knux	...	10	3	1	...	2	1	3	6	12	...	1	1	40	...										BISHOP AUCLAND—	Population, 14,687											Inspector of Nuisances—	Isaac Sanderson	5	11	5	13	1	7	7	8	18	76	...										BLAYTON—	Population, 36,093											Inspector of Nuisances—	Robert Biggins	35	1056	36	2	3	4	1	3	217	1	25	140	78	2	1141	4	1	10	1	...	54	2814										BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES—	Population, 18,612											Inspector of Nuisances—	William Ward	1	48	5	5	...	2	114	2	1	20	20	1	49	1	...	2	...	30	301											CHESTER-LE-STREET—	Population, 15,827											Inspector of Nuisances—	William Ridley	2	12	5	1	6	3	7	6	...	11	2	1	2	59	...										CONSETT—	Population, 11,898											Inspector of Nuisances—	P. Hargreaves	4	29	13	1	...	1	118	9	4	15	8	16	57	...	18	63	357											CROOK—	Population, 12,500											Inspector of Nuisances—	E. W. Ayton	...	1	10	1	...	2	2	...	1	1	30	1	15	65											FELLING—	Population, 25,910											Inspector of Nuisances—	Henry G. Baldock	...	38	7	145	3	7	14	12	1	45	2	1	5	40	324											HEBBURN—	Population, 23,580											Inspector of Nuisances—	Rt. McKellar	20	181	75	214	67	...	20	15	...	28	5	...	4	20	649											HETTON-LE-HOLE—	Population, 16,200											Inspector of Nuisances—	Chas. E. Butterworth	15	66	7	...	2	4	1	3	51	4	3	19	8	...	9	...	1	6	...	29	228											HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING—	Population, 10,619											Inspector of Nuisances—	J. A. Emery (Acting)	2	18	8	1	1	1	...	1	44	12	18	3	2	...	66	74	1	4	266											LEADGATE—	Population, 5,000											Inspector of Nuisances—	William Robson	23	6	1	18	...	36	120											RYTON—	Population, 14,250											Inspector of Nuisances—	James Jenkins	3	19	2	...	2	...	2	28	12	5	7	8	...	27	1	1	2	...	1	4	124											SEAHAM HARBOUR—	Population, 18,500											Inspector of Nuisances—	W. R. Robinson	2	16	32	1	7	2	2	69											SHILDON—	Population, 11,103											Inspector of Nuisances—	Middleton Turnbull	47	5	25	1	4	11	2	1	24	1	1	122											SOUTHWICK-ON-WEAR—	Population, 14,183											Inspector of Nuisances—	Walter B. Thomas	10	12	12	1	111	14	56	39	...	6	...	7	24	292											SPENNYMOOR—	Population, 18,340											Inspector of Nuisances—	Robert Bayles	5	96	11	1	1	27	...	15	6	...	35	25	222											STANHOPE—	Population, 2,000											Inspector of Nuisances—	J. R. Ridley	12	17	1	10	9	49	...											STANLEY—	Population, 27,300											Inspector of Nuisances—	James Harris	2	34	5	1	1	3	2	1	136	4	21	17	2	...	35	...	1	18	283											TANFIELD—	Population, 10,800											Inspector of Nuisances—	R. Heslop	3	65	4	2	52	...	4	25	6	1	...	1	163	...											TOW LAW—	Population, 4,327											Inspector of Nuisances—	W. Garraway	17
DURHAM—	Population, 17,550	64	243	11	56	2	14	3	42	36	26	434	11	3	55	154	6	10	1	1	635	1807																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
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Inspector of Nuisances—	James Harris	2	34	5	1	1	3	2	1	136	4	21	17	2	...	35	...	1	18	283																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
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Inspector of Nuisances—	R. Heslop	3	65	4	2	52	...	4	25	6	1	...	1	163	...																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
TOW LAW—	Population, 4,327																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
Inspector of Nuisances—	W. Garraway	17																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
WHICKHAM—	Population, 20,575	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	

TABLE C. 1

INSPECTORS' REPORT—RURAL.

RURAL DISTRICTS.		PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS—NOTICES SERVED AND NUISANCES ABATED.																				WATER, FOOD, AND DRUGS.				PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.						
		DWELLING-HOUSES AND SCHOOLS.			Lodging-houses.	Dairies and Milk-shops.	Cowsheds.	Bakehouses.	Slaughter-houses.	Ashpits and Privies.	Deposits of Refuse and Manure.	Water-closets.	Defective Yard Pavings.	HOUSE DRAINAGE.			Water Supply.	Pigsties.	Animals Improperly Kept.	Offensive Trades.	Smoke Nuisances.	Other Nuisances.	TOTALS.	Samples of Water taken for Analysis.	Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use.	Seizures of Unwholesome Food.	Convictions for Exposing or Selling Unwholesome Food.	Lots of Infected Bedding Seized or Destroyed.	Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease.	Schools Disinfected after Infectious Disease.	Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things.	Convictions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things.
		Foul Conditions.	Structural Defects.	Over-crowding.										Defective Traps.	No Disconnection from Sewers.	Other Faults.																
AUCKLAND— Population, 60,055 Inspectors of Nuisances— J. Little and J. D. Dowson		Informal written Notices by Inspector	2	677	8	...	...	...	...	46	53	163	109	1	...	74	...	1	...	...	...	1	1136	...	...	...	...	458	458	1	...	...
BARNARD CASTLE— Population, 11,983 Inspector of Nuisances— Robert Brown		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	5	127	8	...	...	...	...	...	2	109	52	12	...	11	...	2	...	...	...	1	319	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
OHESTER-LE-STREET— Population, 67,194 Inspectors of Nuisances— G. B. Brown, R. J. Swad- dle, and T. S. Wadge		Nuisances abated after Notice	7	259	12	...	...	...	...	16	55	87	29	...	...	74	...	3	...	...	...	2	544	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
DARLINGTON— Population, 10,914 Inspector of Nuisances— Geo. L. Bowron		Informal written Notices by Inspector	1	12	...	...	2	...	4	17	43	4	3	4	...	17	5	1	...	...	4	117	...	...	...	...	42	42	3	...	...
DURHAM— Population, 32,147 Inspector of Nuisances— James Menzies		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	8	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
EASINGTON— Population, 69,570 Inspectors of Nuisances— William Emery and G. W. Graham		Nuisances abated after Notice	1	11	1	...	...	...	4	18	43	4	2	...	...	16	2	1	...	...	...	15	107	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
HARTLEPOOL— Population, 3,075 Inspector of Nuisances— W. Burton		Informal written Notices by Inspector	28	323	40	...	1	11	3	589	168	59	32	37	3	283	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
HOUGHTON— Population, 28,367 Inspector of Nuisances— W. Morley		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	1	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
LANCHESTER— Population, 34,116 Inspectors of Nuisances— J. R. Lupton and G. W. Westgarth		Nuisances abated after Notice	31	323	37	...	1	10	3	650	162	51	38	31	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SEDFIELD— Population, 35,968 Inspectors of Nuisances— J. Stones, J. W. Tweddle, and B. Murray		Informal written Notices by Inspector	10	28	2	...	4	12	...	30	15	...	15	14	11	12	8	...	1	1	...	3	166	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SOUTH SHIELDS— Population, 16,169 Inspector of Nuisances— William Welsh		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	1	11	...	...	1	...	...	19	...	...	3	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	39	...	...	...	...	40	40	1	...	...	...
STOCKTON— Population, 11,673 Inspector of Nuisances— J. Franklin		Nuisances abated after Notice	6	7	2	...	2	9	...	18	8	...	8	6	5	5	2	...	1	1	...	1	81	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SUNDERLAND— Population, 31,487 Inspector of Nuisances— Ernest Hitchen		Informal written Notices by Inspector	4	...	...	...	62	...	15	...	...	14	...	36	...	2	...	8	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
WEARDALE— Population, 9,651 Inspector of Nuisances— W. Morley Egglestone		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	4	...	...	...	60	...	15	...	...	10	...	20	...	...	...	8	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	14	52	26	1	...	16	2	17	114	47	1	82	7	...	74	2	4	1	...	63	320	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	4	16	1	...	...	...	...	57	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	63	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	18	54	24	1	...	16	2	17	141	48	1	66	7	...	76	2	4	1	...	63	319	6	6	...	1	57	...	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	1	1	...	...	3	...	1	2	1	1	2	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	4	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	1	1	...	...	3	...	1	2	1	1	2	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	5	5	...	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	6	113	...	...	2	...	3	34	4	...	43	5	1	70	19	3	5	...	29	337	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	3	47	8	...	...	...	...	12	2	...	10	3	...	6	3	...	2	...	7	103	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	9	106	7	...	2	...	3	41	4	...	38	8	1	73	22	3	5	...	34	356	6	6	...	...	243	34	...	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	1	647	78	...	29	...	13	86	19	6	96	6	10	32	26	...	...	...	196	1245	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	331	31	...	2	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	9	23	...	...	...	...	408	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	1	497	71	...	24	...	13	50	18	6	67	6	10	31	8	...	...	...	196	998	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	5	69	...	3	163	...	1	137	57	1	6	6	...	138	4	16	9	...	2	19	636	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	6	72	...	3	163	...	1	135	57	1	7	6	...	139	4	16	9	...	2	19	640	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	23	41	14	...	16	...	9	36	25	13	9	15	12	27	3	14	3	...	83	343	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	3	15	2	...	7	...	...	8	2	6	12	13	3	6	2	...	...	...	17	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	23	47	14	...	18	...	9	41	25	14	20	25	12	30	1	14	3	...	96	392	...	...	...	...	672	83	1	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	1	58	1	...	4	7	...	74	2	3	49	8	...	67	4	1	2	...	10	292	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	16	...	...	1	...	...	21	...	1	2	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	1	69	1	...	4	7	1	88	2	4	50	8	...	71	7	1	2	...	10	327	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	22	46	9	...	1	8	7	...	90	5	27	18	4	1	79	9	2	4	...	73	406	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Nuisances abated after Notice	22	43	9	...	1	8	7	...	86	5	24	20	4	1	77	9	2	4	...	72	395	...	...	3	...	170	241	2	...	...
		Informal written Notices by Inspector	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	18	9	1	1	2	4	17	...	...	...	...	25	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Formal Notices by Order of Authority	...	32	26	58
		Nuisances abated after Notice	10	16	7	1	1	2	...	15	20	72	6	83	3

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